

Musawi urges kidnappers not to free hostages after U.S. Jerusalem vote

BAALBEK (AP) — Shi'ite Muslim leader Hussein Musawi accused the United States Wednesday of responding to the release of American hostage Robert Pollitt with ill intentions and called on pro-Iranian Shi'ite Muslim militants not to free another captive.

Musawi, who played a key role in Pollitt's release Sunday, said a U.S. House of Representatives resolution Tuesday endorsing a United Nations Security Council resolution to free 52 Americans held hostage at the U.S. embassy in Tehran.

"The Muslims in Lebanon offered a rose only to get a stone thrown at them," Musawi told a group of visiting Western journalists, including the Associated Press.

He said the United States' intentions were demonstrated by the congressional resolution, which is non-binding.

Musawi said the hostage-holders have been repeatedly urged to prove goodwill by freeing a captive.

"So they did and release Pollitt," he said.

"But upon that release we heard the news of the House of Representatives resolution on Jerusalem. If every release will be matched by such a monumental ill-intentioned American response, why then should any hostage be freed?"

In Tehran, Iran's radical parliament speaker, Mehdi Karrubi, Wednesday said U.S. officials were more spiteful of the Islamic Republic now than when Washington launched a failed military operation in April 1980 to free U.S. hostages in Tehran.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said Karrubi was speaking on the anniversary of the U.S. mission to free 52 Americans held hostage at the U.S. embassy in Tehran.

The problem-plagued rescue mission was aborted after two U.S. aircraft collided at a desert base south of Tehran and eight crewmen were killed.

Karrubi appeared to be preempting any possible thawing of relations between Tehran and Washington following Pollitt's release by the pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine.

"We hope that no other hostage will be released," said Musawi, reputed mentor of Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine.

Pollitt, 55, a lecturer on accounting, was kidnapped from the campus of the U.S.-affiliated Beirut University College with two other American educators Jan. 24, 1978.

Jesse Turner, 42, of Boise, Idaho, and Alann Steen, 51, of Boston, remain in captivity.

"We expect the hostage-holders to complicate matters and we hope they will not liberate any of the hostages. The House of Representatives motion was a maximum ill-intention," said Musawi.

He heads the pro-Syrian Islamic Amal Shi'ite faction. He stressed the word maximum in English although all his remarks were made in Arabic.

Asked about persistent reports that a second American hostage would be released during Eid al-Fitr, the three-day feast that begins Thursday to mark the end of Islam's holy fasting month of Ramadan, Musawi said:

"There is plenty of talk about such a move. I don't think Eid al-Fitr means anything to the Americans and I don't think there's an atmosphere of such an early release."

Musawi said the release of Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners held by Israel and its militia ally, the South Lebanon Army, was "essential" for any progress toward freeing the remaining 17 Westerners missing in Lebanon.

Most of the seven Americans, four Britons, two West Germans, two Swiss, one Italian and one Irishman are believed held by pro-Iranian Shi'ite factions.

Musawi noted: "The release of the prisoners with Israel and its surrogates is a foremost issue and should be simultaneous with the release of the hostages."

Officials in Jerusalem had said Israel and the South Lebanon Army (SLA) planned prisoner releases this week to mark Eid al-Fitr.

But SLA leader Antoine Lahd, Wednesday cancelled plans to release prisoners, sources said.

"There will not be a prisoner release for the Eid al-Fitr," one source said.

Lahd, a retired army general who heads the 2,500-member

SLA, has refused to act on amnesty requests from families of more than 300 mostly Shi'ite Muslims held in the Al Khiam jail just north of the Israeli border.

Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani recognises that the hostage issue is one of the biggest hurdles blocking Tehran's efforts to improve relations with the West and seeks the captives' release.

But he is opposed by anti-Western radicals allied to Shi'ite militants in Lebanon.

Tehran Radio quoted Karrubi as saying of the abortive U.S. rescue mission in 1980: "By God's will this attempt failed, and the Americans were forced to flee."

He added that "the American officials still have the same nature, and their spite against Iran's Islamic establishment has increased."

Karrubi and other radicals who dominate the 270-member parliament, consider hostility towards the U.S. cornerstone of the Islamic revolution.

Last month parliament demanded a halt to efforts to free the hostages in Lebanon.

In Damascus, Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa received a letter from his Iranian counterpart Tuesday night, the official Syrian News Agency (SANA) reported Wednesday.

It said the letter from Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, currently in New York, was delivered to Sharaa by a special envoy, Mohammad Kazem Khansari, the Foreign Ministry's director of Middle East affairs.

Neither SANA nor Iran's offi-

cial Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), which also reported the meeting Wednesday, disclosed the contents of Velayati's letter beyond saying it dealt with developments in Lebanon and the Middle East.

Velayati said Monday that information from Lebanon indicated another Western hostage could be released within days.

The SLA announced Tuesday night that four Lebanese had been freed after being investigated on suspicion of belonging to a terror group. Sources close to the SLA said the release took place last week and had no connection to the holiday or the U.S. hostage set free Monday.

SLA sources had said earlier in the week that they expected Lahd to free 10 or 11 prisoners for the holiday, and a report in London suggested more than 30 would be allowed to go home.

One source said Lahd's decision not to release prisoners was affected by publicity suggesting the move would be a concession to the pro-Iranian Hizbollah, which is believed to be linked to groups holding hostages in Lebanon including three Israeli soldiers.

Israel Radio quoted Lahd as saying the release was turned into an international affair for no reason.

"To my regret, there will be no release this year because of the press and (U.S. President George) Bush," he was quoted as saying by the radio.

"Releasing them now would be seen as an American payment to the Hizbollah through Israeli agents," he was quoted as saying.

Allies mark anniversary of Gallipoli

GALLIPOLI, Turkey (R) — The once-bloodstained hills of Gallipoli echoed to the sound of lone buglers and guns Wednesday and frail veterans wept recalling an historic World War I battle 75 years ago.

Returning to the scene where some 300,000 men were killed in eight months, the veterans all aged over 90 were joined by generals, admirals and leaders from Australia, New Zealand, Britain and Turkey for the anniversary ceremony.

Some of the thousands of spectators on the now-forested peninsula tip joined the veterans in their tears.

The Gallipoli battle "has shown that there is no place for hatred and enmity in our ever-narrowing world," Turkish President Turgut Ozal told an international ceremony at Turkey's austere Martyrs' Monument.

Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke said: "For us, no place on Earth more grimly symbolises the waste and futility of war — this scene of carnage in a campaign which failed."

Hawke was speaking at the Lone Pine Cemetery where some of Australia's 8,000 Gallipoli dead are buried.

Australian veteran Jack Ryan, 95, cried openly as he entered Lone Pine. "I was walking alone one day up here and whom — my right leg was hit. It felt like a lump of wood," he said.

In London, Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh laid a wreath at the Cenotaph in a ceremony marking ANZAC Day. Veterans of Gallipoli and other war campaigns, many of them in wheelchairs, attended.

At Cape Helles, where British troops landed on April 25, 1915, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told reporters: "After the First World War we did not learn the lessons. After the Second World War we got together in the North Atlantic alliance which has kept the peace."

Up to 250,000 Turkish troops were believed killed in the fighting. Allied deaths totalled 47,000 including 21,000 British soldiers and around 10,000 French troops.

The allied plan which ended in dismal failure, had been to force the narrow Dardanelles waterway between Europe and Asia, take Istanbul 300 kilometres to the northeast, and knock Turkey, then fighting with Germany, out of the war.

The battle, filled with examples of poor British leadership, had a dramatic effect on forging the nationhood of the then emergent nations of Australia and New Zealand.

For Turkey, whose army took nearly a decade to recover from its losses at Gallipoli, the fighting thrust into the limelight Mustafa Kemal Ataturk who proclaimed the secular republic in 1923 from the ashes of Ottoman Empire.

At dawn Wednesday, a lone Australian bugler sounded the last post at an emotional dawn service near ANZAC (Australia and New Zealand Army Corps) Cove, around the same time that ANZAC troops waded ashore 75 years ago to the day.

"As dawn broke on this day 1915, a terrible slaughter began," Hawke said.

"Today, as dawn emerges from the blackness of night, let us hope that the nations of the Earth are emerging from the self-destructive practices of enmity and will build in sunlight, a world of peace," he added.

The guns of four warships — from Australia, Britain, France and Turkey — fired salutes as they passed.

Havel expects to push for Arab-Israeli peace

TEL AVIV (R) — Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel, the first East European head of state to visit Israel, was welcomed Wednesday as a potential catalyst for peace by Israelis and Palestinians alike.

Havel, a former political dissident who was swept into the presidency four months ago with the ousting of the Communist government, is anxious to bury more than two decades of hostility towards Israel by Prague.

But the playwright-turned-president has also offered to help mediate the protracted Israeli-Arab conflict.

He has scheduled talks with all major Israeli political figures during his three-day visit, and Palestinians said they would confer with him Thursday in Arab East Jerusalem.

Israeli President Chaim Herzog, presiding at a welcoming ceremony attended by caretaker Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and other government ministers, praised Havel as the symbol of the democratic spirit that has transformed Eastern Europe.

"As the dark clouds of despair, despotism and tragedy recede from the skies of Czechoslovakia and other countries in Eastern Europe, so we pray too may the same winds of hope blow away the clouds of strife and conflict from our area," Herzog said.

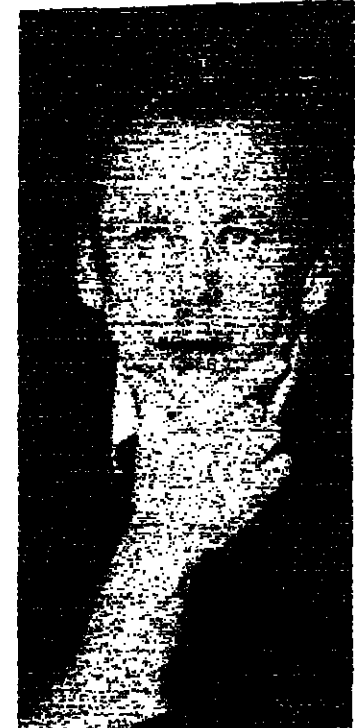
Formally welcomed in West Jerusalem an hour after his plane landed in Tel Aviv, the 54-year-old Czechoslovak leader said: "I believe our discussions will be direct, successful and fruitful."

Czechoslovak officials said in Prague Tuesday that Havel would brief the Israelis on his recent talks with PLO leader Yasser Arafat. Israel refuses to have any dealings with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Palestinians reported they were scheduled to meet Havel at an East Jerusalem hotel Thursday afternoon. The Israeli Foreign Ministry said earlier there would be no such contact.

"We will be talking about our relations, our friendship, our relationship between our peoples and to encourage him to play a role for moderation," said Radwan Abu Ayash, a leading Palestinian activist, told Reuters.

Abu Ayash said the meeting Havel and nine Palestinian leaders had been arranged during talks in Prague and Israel with



Vaclav Havel

representatives of the Czechoslovak president.

Despite possible differences over the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the arrival of Havel only two months after diplomatic relations were restored represented a triumph for Israeli efforts to overcome its isolation.

Streets were festooned with Czechoslovak flags and Havel's comments were broadcast live on Israeli radio stations.

Relations between the countries were close in the early days of the Jewish state when Czechoslovakia was a major arms supplier, but Prague swung behind the Arab states 23 years ago.

Czechoslovakia joined Bulgaria, Hungary and Poland in following the Soviet-led campaign to break diplomatic relations with Israel following the 1967 Middle East war.

Hungary restored relations last September and Poland and Czechoslovakia followed in February. Romania ignored the 1967 boycott and maintained ties.

Israel has had less success with the Soviet Union. Years of Israeli efforts to restore diplomatic links with Moscow have produced only an exchange of consular officials.

Moscow has linked an improvement in relations to Israeli moves towards Middle East peace.

AIPAC criticises Israel

WASHINGTON (AP) — The head of the leading pro-Israel lobby in Washington has criticised the Israeli government's secret financing of Jewish housing in the Christian sector of Jerusalem, sources familiar with the criticism said.

Through an emissary to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Thomas Dine, executive director of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), questioned the timing of the move into the Christian Quarter of East Jerusalem.

He told Shamir the Israeli government was "doing great harm" to Israel's standing with the administration of President George Bush and the American public, the sources said.

Although American Jewish groups frequently disagree on a wide range of issues, it is unusual for AIPAC objections to Israeli government action to become known publicly.

The State Department Monday, sharply criticised the Israeli government for financing the purchase of a sublease on a church-owned hospice to be rented to new Soviet Jewish immigrants. About 150 Jews two

weeks ago moved on to the site. Israeli courts have ordered the Jews evicted, a decision the Bush administration welcomed.

Dine called the move "a provocation," said the sources, who provided information about Dine's statements only on condition that they not be identified.

The assertion paralleled the State Department's description of the purchase as "an insensitive and provocative action."

The Israeli Housing Ministry, controlled by Shamir's hard-line Likud coalition, contributed about 40 per cent of the \$1.6-million purchase of the sublease on the property owned by the Greek Orthodox Church.

The ministry for two weeks had denied financing the deal before admitting it.

Congress has been considering guaranteeing a \$400-million loan to help resettle Soviet Jews in Israel. The White House has conditioned its support for the legislation, now before the Senate, on a condition that Israel not use the money to house Soviet Jews in the predominantly Arab sector of Jerusalem or on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, territories occupied in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

Israel launches new settlement in West Bank

ALON, Occupied West Bank (AP) — In a fresh burst of settlement activity, a crane hoisted seven mobile homes onto a rocky hilltop in the West Bank Wednesday, setting up the core of a new Jewish community in the occupied West Bank.

The founding of Alon is the latest move in a campaign that has gained momentum since March when Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir took the reins of a caretaker government without the left-of-centre Labour Party which opposes settlement building.

Several settler leaders, including Rabbi Moshe Levinger and Pinchas Wallerstein, watched as bulldozers smoothed the rocky ground for the mobile homes.

New residents of Alon, which overlooks the Jordan Valley midway 15 kilometres east of Jerusalem, raised wine glasses in a toast.

"In five years, there will be a big city here," said Eliyakin Haetzni, a parliament member for the pro-settlement Teiya Party as he pointed to the surrounding, barren hills in a sweeping gesture.

Haetzni attacked the U.S. government which has opposed settlement building on territory captured from the Arab states, including East Jerusalem. President Bush has said such settlements impede efforts to arrange peace talks with Palestinians.

"There are many shades of anti-semitism. Some are very civilised, such as calling settlements an obstacle to peace," said Haetzni.

Moshe Waysman, leader of the Alon settlers, said 10 families and a few bachelors would move into Alon Wednesday, and that another six mobile homes would

be added in the next few days.

Waysman said the group had no political aspirations, even though it was being assisted by Amana, the settlement wing of the extremist Gush Emunim (block of faithful) settler movement.

"We want to live together in a pleasant environment, to have some land around our houses and to have a higher standard of living," said Waysman, who owns a food processing factory in Jerusalem and immigrated to Israel from Australia 19 years ago.

Alon is not included in the coalition agreement of the collapsed Likud-Labour government, which called for eight new settlements to be built by 1992.

Shamir spokesman Avi Pazner claimed Wednesday that the construction did not violate the agreement because Alon was merely an expansion of the existing settlement of Kfar Adumim.

"This government has not adopted any new resolutions regarding settlements and only follows what was decided by the national unity government," he said.

However, Kfar Adumim is about two kilometres west of Alon, and there is no road linking the two locations.

Left-wing legislators, including Dedi Zuckerman of the Liberal Citizens Rights Movement, charged Shamir with exploiting the period of political uncertainty to push through settlement plans.

"(Alon) is part of a much wider programme, that is taking advantage of the transitional government," Zuckerman said. "(Shamir) promises to advance peace, and I ask myself if this is a significant part of his peace plan."

E. Germany wants ties with Israel

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany wants to establish diplomatic relations with Israel by this summer at the latest, Foreign Minister Markus Meckel said.

Speaking late Tuesday after returning from a trip to Bonn, Meckel told reporters he also wanted East Germany to recognise South Korea.

East German diplomats could work out of existing West German embassies in Israel and South Korea because it would be pointless building separate new missions as unification drew nearer, he said.

Meckel, a Social Democrat and Protestant pastor, said: "It would be absurd to buy or build an embassy in Israel or South Korea."

Instead, ways should be found

to work closely with or out of existing West German missions. The foreign minister did not say exactly when he was aiming for relations but summer implies by September.

Meckel said he would soon be ordering all his ambassadors to work closely with Bonn's embassies around the world.

He also said the planned construction of a new East German embassy in Washington had been cancelled.

Israel welcomed Wednesday the East German call to establish diplomatic relations and urged the former Communist state to open contacts on the issue.

But an Israeli Foreign Ministry statement fell short of agreeing to diplomatic relations, and officials said there were still outstanding

issues to be discussed.

The Israeli statement said Meckel's remark "indeed reflects this new approach and we welcome it."

"We assume that at this stage the East German government will contact Israel's government," the Foreign Ministry said.

An Israeli official said outstanding issues included the nature of East German reparations and the question of the former Communist regime's military aid to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and some Arab states.

He stressed these were not preconditions for ties and noted the sensitivity of any statement on relations with East Berlin in the week when Israel marked Holocaust memorial day.

Sudanese ruler says executions are warning to regime's enemies

KHARTOUM (AP) — Sudan's military leader says the time is past for forgiving his enemies, who should not and heed the fate of 28 alleged coup plotters shot by his firing squads.

Those officers made the mistake of interpreting as weakness his mild treatment of earlier agitators against his 10-month-old government. Lt.-Gen. Omar Hassan al-Bashir told an estimated 2,000 people Tuesday night at a government-organised rally.

The rally was called at the Armed Forces General Command's downtown headquarters to show popular support for Bashir's junta a few hours after government media reported the executions. Five of 28 military officers were retired, from senior ranks, three generals, a brigadier

and a colonel.

Although Sudan's 34 years of independence have been largely under military rule, never before were so many people executed after a coup or counter-coup. In 1971, two years after a coup made Maj. Gen. Gaafar Numeiri president, he had 14 soldiers and civilians shot or hanged after surviving a takeover bid by Communists.

"We are a revolution, and we are strong and capable of dealing a blow to any plotter," Bashir told the Tuesday night rally.

"The revolution will no longer tolerate or forgive" dissent.

Chants of "one army... one people" bowed from the crowd at every pause in the general's speech.

Last June 30, Bashir and other brigadiers spearheaded a coup

that overthrew Prime Minister

Sadek al-Mahdi's 3-year-old civilian government. He quickly promoted himself two ranks and appointed a 15-officer junta. In its name, Bashir banned unions and political parties and arrested Mahdi and most other leading politicians and Labour leaders.

The 28 officers executed Tuesday apparently were involved in an ineffectual coup attempt Monday. Overnight, they were tried in secret by summary court-martial, and their deaths were announced after they were shot.

One man was acquitted.

Sources in Khartoum said there was limited shooting in the officer's moves against the airport, radio station and general command headquarters. They said at least one loyalist soldier was wounded slightly.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:45 Programme review
15:55 Children programme
17:10 Book of Adventure
18:30 News for the Deaf
18:35 Religious programme
19:00 Health programme
19:40 Programme review
20:30 News in Arabic
21:30 Local series
21:35 Programme review
21:40 Local programme
22:20 Arabic film
22:30 News in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:10 Des Chiffres et de Lettres
18:30 La Chance aux chansons
19:00 News in French
19:15 Documentary
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 News in Arabic
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 The Cosby Show
21:10 NBA Basketball
22:00 News in English
22:20 Feature film: "Texas Across the River"

PRAYER TIMES

05:27 Fajr
06:59 (Shari'ah) Dhuhr
11:34 Dhuhr
15:12 'Asr
18:16 Maghreb
19:36 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swellish Tel. 810740

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 627283

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624990

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terrace Church Tel. 623636

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 632411

Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

American International Church Tel. 827981, 685326

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817 and 654952

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be hot, dry and dusty with northerly moderate wind freshening at times. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.
Amman 15 / 30
Agaba 24 / 39
Dacra 14 / 32
Jordan Valley 22 / 37

Yesterday's high temperature: Amman 31, Agaba 38. Humidity readings: Amman 10 per cent, Agaba 19 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Abdul Aziz Al Khateeb 622520
Dr. Abdul Rahman Ahmad 744625
Dr. Ahmad Al Dargi 674773
Dr. Mahmoud Al Sheikh 663087
Fire pharmacy 661912
Firdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asana pharmacy 637035
Nawroth pharmacy 626672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yaacob pharmacy 644945
Shmeicani pharmacy 637660

IRBID:
Dr. Lawrence Bader (—)
Al Sharaa pharmacy (882328)

ZARQA:
Dr. Walid Hattas (—)
Khafid pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence ambulance 630341
Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 753221
Highway Police 963402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800

Price Complaints

Water and Sewerage 661176
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 645845
Repairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Khashif Medical Centre 813812/32
Khashif Maternity, J. Amn. 642016
Alkhaf Maternity, J. Amn. 624412
Jabal Amman Maternity 624262
Malhe, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeicani 664174
Shmeicani Hospital 660251
University Hospital 845845
Al-Munasser Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164
Italian, Al-Mahajra 771013
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafish 891611/15
Army, Marka 602240/50
Queen Alia Hospital 630321
Alsal Hospital

King receives Eid congratulations

AMMAN (Petra) — All official and public institutions of Jordan have congratulated His Majesty King Hussein on the eve of 'Eid Al Fitr. In cables they sent to His Majesty they paid tribute to the King's efforts at the different national, Arab, Islamic and international levels, particularly aimed at resolving the Palestinian question.

The cables came from the prime minister, the ministers, the speaker and members of the Upper House of Parliament, the speaker and members of the Lower House of Parliament, the chief justice, Amman mayor, the Armed Forces chief of staff, directors of the Public Security, the Civil Defence and the General Intelligence departments and the acting commander of the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) in Jordan.

In his cable, Chief of staff General Fathi Abu Taleb congratulated the King in his name and on behalf of the commanders, officers and soldiers of the Armed Forces and pledged loyalty to the King and to the principles of the Great Arab Revolt. Acting commander of the PLA Brigadier Mohammad Abdul Rahman Qadassiyeh congratulated the King on the occasion in his name and on behalf of the PLA in the Kingdom. He said that the

FLO "evaluates dearly the King's national stands which stem from loyalty to the Arab Nation and its causes, especially the Palestinian question."

He said that the King's constant stands "embodied in backing the Palestinian people and supporting its sole representative, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), stem from the fact that the Jordanian and the Palestinian peoples are one family."

King Hussein will receive congratulations on the occasion of 'Eid Al Fitr Thursday, the first day of the feast, at Raghdan Palace.

The Royal Protocol Department has prepared the following arrangements for the occasion:

Congratulations will gather at 7:30 a.m. at the palace as follows:

— The prime ministers, speakers of the Upper House and Lower House of Parliament, former prime ministers, the chief justice, the chief of staff, directors of the Public Security, the General Intelligence and the Civil Defence Departments and the commander of the Royal Air Force will gather in the backyard of Raghdan Palace.

— The rest of the congratulators gather in the front yard of the palace.

The procession of His Majesty

will arrive at the palace at 7:45 a.m. when the guard of honour will give the Royal salute and play the national anthem. Then His Majesty will inspect the guard of honour accompanied by the chief of staff.

The King will then enter the throne court accompanied by senior officials of the Royal Court.

The Prime Minister and the ministers will present their congratulations to His Majesty and then the Prime Minister and his two deputies will stand by the side of the King.

The chief of staff and the directors of the Public Security, the General Intelligence and the Civil Defence departments and the commander of Al Hussein Ben Ali Brigade will present congratulations.

Congratulations will then be presented by the following:

a) Speaker and members of the Upper House of Parliament and then the speaker will stand to the left of the King.
b) Speaker and members of the Lower House of Parliament and the speaker will stand next on the left of the King.
c) The Chief Justice who will stand next on the left of King Hussein.
d) The former prime ministers.
e) The ambassadors accredited at

the Royal Court.

f) Chief judges of the court of cassation, of the higher justice and criminal courts.

g) Nobility.

h) Muslim and Christian clergymen and scientists. The Kingdom's general Mufi and the two committees of the Sharia law and the administrative law.

i) The mayor of Amman and the members of the municipal council.

j) Officials with the rank of minister.

k) Presidents of the Jordanian universities.

l) Members of the Royal Commission entrusted with drafting the National Charter.

m) Amman governor.

n) Directors of independent departments.

o) Presidents of the professional unions, the chambers of industry and commerce and of Amman's Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

p) Chairmen and the directors general of commercial banks.

q) Journalists.

r) Sheikhs of tribes and representatives of refugee camps.

s) Senior officers of the Armed Forces, Public Security, the General Intelligence and the Civil Defence departments.

t) Senior officers of the Palestine Liberation Army.



People through the streets of downtown on the eve of Eid Al Fitr (Photos by Yousef Al 'Allan)

Ramtha voices concern over town's environment

RAMTHA (J.T.) — The mayor of Ramtha Fawwaz Al Zoubi and Parliament deputy from the Ramtha region Mohammad Ali Dardour are now spearheading efforts to prevent the establishment of a wastewater treatment plant west of the border city of Ramtha.

"The people of the city strongly oppose this project since it would lead to their eviction from their homes as a result of expected pollution," said Zoubi in a statement published in the local press.

"Should the government go ahead with plans to build the plant, west of Ramtha, the city would then be surrounded on five sides with stations that would force the population to leave," Zoubi said.

Dardour was quoted as saying that the city is already surrounded in the south by the wastewater treatment plant belonging to the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST), a garbage dump in the east, and the old Ramtha wastewater treatment plant in the north.

"The projected plant in the west is supposed to serve the Irbid region, but it would eventually lead to mass evacuation of

Ramtha people because of the great harm to public health and contaminated atmosphere it would produce," said Dardour.

The deputy recalled that he had raised the issue with the government and relayed the Ramtha population's grievances to the Minister of Water and Irrigation Daoud Khalaf last January, pointing out the dangers inherent in such a project.

He told the minister the plant could lead to contamination of the whole wadi, the air and the underground water.

"Water of the nearby Wadi Al Mahasi is being increasingly contaminated as a result of the presence of the plants around it, and the level of contamination and polluted air is bound to increase with the construction of the projected plant," Dardour added.

Dardour said search for another site to build the plant was the only solution, although the government is making feasibility studies with a foreign firm to build the plant in the west of Ramtha.

Both the mayor and the Parliament deputy echoed Ramtha population's fears about the prospect of being surrounded by the plants and the garbage dump, and



Mohammad Dardour

voiced their protest at a recent rally they held at Al Omari Mosque in Ramtha.

According to the report, the minister was quoted as saying that no final decision had yet been taken to build the plant which would serve 12 villages around Irbid.

"According to the report, the people of Ramtha live in constant obsession and fear of the fact that they would be facing a grim environment future," Dardour said.

Both he and the mayor appealed in earnest to the government to cancel plans for such plant west of the border city which is inhabited by more than 70,000 citizens.

Disarmament money should help economic development — envoy

NEW YORK (Petra) — Jordan has called on the United Nations to help make the Middle East region a zone free from nuclear chemical and biological weapons and said the vast sums spent on armament could be saved to benefit the economies of the nations in the region.

Jordan's United Nations ambassador Abdullah Salah told a special assembly session, called to discuss international economic cooperation, that removal of weapons is bound to prompt the countries of the region to use their funds to increase economic and social programmes and benefit their peoples.

"Vast investments and large funds can not alone ensure the development aspired to by the United World, including countries in the Middle East region which demand that trade barriers be removed and agricultural products be allowed to be marketed freely," Salah said.

"There are many countries like Jordan which suffer from regional struggles and conflicts which result in economic difficulties, and such issues should be taken into account by the major world economic institutions like the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank when they provide help to countries involved in regional conflicts," Salah added.

Salah expressed the view that the recession in economic growth, the rise in the prices of various commodities and the rise

in interest rates facing the Third World would soon be shifted to the industrialised world as a result of a decline in demand on imports and due to the financial difficulties the Third World countries are now facing and their heavy debts to the rich nations.

"In light of the improved East-West relations which had its beneficial effects on political issues, the world community, in general, and the industrialised countries of the world, in particular, should focus attention on the prospect of promoting international economic cooperation and increasing north-south trade links in a manner that would help enhance world economic stability," Salah said.

Salah told the meeting, which ends Saturday, that Jordan supports a system by which countries that export skilled manpower should receive compensation for their huge investments in training and building up human resources potentials.

"Jordan, is involved in the implementation of a new educational system that would cater for the needs of the community and is trying to provide academic and vocational training to create skills needed for the Arab labour markets," he said.

He said that nearly 37 per cent of the 18-24 age group of young men and women in the kingdom acquire university education, which is needed for different specialisations and fields of work.



Berlin fair highlights Jordan's tourism

BERLIN — Jordan was among 13 Arab countries to take part in an international tourism exhibition which was held in West Berlin last month. Tourism organisations, airlines, hotels and tour organisers and offices from 160 nations took part in the exhibition displaying various items that promoted tourism and invited tourists and visitors. Jordan set up a large wing displaying Jordanian handicrafts and folklore items

brochures, posters, photographs and tourist maps designed to highlight touristic sites and archaeological places in the Kingdom. Along with Jordan, the following Arab countries participated in the Berlin exhibition: Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Syria, North Yemen, Egypt, Sudan, Djibouti, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Oman.

King meets activists

(Continued from page 1)

two-and-a-half-hour talks the King held with the eight-member party delegation, the sources said.

The King's meeting with JPDP members followed a similar audience with officials of the Palestinian Communist Party and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. The King is also expected to meet with representatives of the Jordanian wing of Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine sometime soon, sources said.

The meetings at the Royal Palace with representatives of formerly banned parties reflect the democratic era in Jordan. One representative of each of the parties is included in the 60-member Royal Commission charged with drafting the national charter.

During Tuesday night's meeting, "we discussed the role of labour and professional unions in the make-up of political forces in the country, the role of political parties, the role of the press and

the abolition of martial law," said Hani Hourani, a member of the party delegation.

Another issue discussed was the release of prisoners serving sentences for politically-related security crimes, said another member of the delegation. "His Majesty showed a lot of concern over the issue of the prisoners," said the party official, who said 32 people affiliated with the JPDP were among the prisoners.

"The King gave us his assurance that there was no going back on the democratisation of Jordan," according to Hourani. "The King stressed that he would look into the release of any remaining political prisoners and a conference which will review means to resolve the economic ills of the Kingdom," he said.

Apart from Hourani, the others attending Tuesday night's meeting were: "Salem Nahas, Bassam Haddadin (a member of the Lower House of Parliament), Sameh Khalil, Abia Abu Ulla, Majda Al Masri, Ahmad Youssef and Ali Amer — all members of the political council of the party.



Abdul Razzaq Ensour

Salt mayor protests U.S. stand

SALT (J.T.) — Salt municipality Mayor Abdul Razzaq Ensour declined to accept an invitation to visit the United States in a show of protest against U.S. stand on Arab issues, Sawi Al Sha'ab Arabic daily said Wednesday.

The daily published the text of a cable the mayor sent to the U.S. ambassador in Amman. The cable said mayors of U.S. cities were launching aggressive campaigns against the Arabs and they supported the U.S. Senate resolution considering Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

It added: "Since Jerusalem, with its historical and religious status to all Arabs, is more important than personal interests, I thank you for inviting me and I apologise for not accepting the invitation, and hope U.S. will stop its aggressive campaign against the Arab Nation, and particularly against Iraq."

Reform bloc lobbies

(Continued from page 1)

hold talks with Labour Minister Qassem Obeidat after the 'Eid Al Fitr holiday and meet with representatives of Arab and international labour federations within the next two weeks in a bid to pursue their campaign against the federation executive committee.

"The democratic changes in Jordan are working in our favour and we believe that 'right will be might' during this phase of our history," said one leader of the bloc.

"The security apparatus was directly and indirectly involved in the federation elections earlier this week and since 1976. Their role must be curtailed and now is the time to do it. They have no role in a federa-

tion of labour unions — we are not and have never been a threat to this country's security — in fact we are part of the country's security not vice-versa as some people have claimed," he said.

U.S. hampers peace move

(Continued from page 1)

Christian as well as Muslim sensitivities towards Jerusalem. Egypt also said that the U.S. resolution further complicates Middle East peace efforts.

A statement by the Foreign Ministry said the resolution contradicted the U.S. administration's official position.

WHAT'S GOING ON

THEATRE

★ Children play in Arabic entitled "Al Shaked" (The Witness) at the Royal Cultural Centre — 4:00 p.m.

FILM

★ Feature film entitled "Hans Christian Anderson" at the American Centre — 3:00 p.m.



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Nurture the voice of reason

BY FOLLOWING the lead of ill-advised Senate and adopting a resolution recognising Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, the U.S. House of Representatives has not only done immense harm to prospects for peace in the Middle East but also dealt an undermining blow to whatever American credibility was there as a honest broker in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Not that questions had not been raised on U.S. credibility in the past, but the Bush administration had striven hard to improve it and had found some success.

The American lawmakers went against the advice of some of their own seasoned colleagues, including Senate Republican leader Robert Dole, and at least 34 in the House itself to adopt the resolution, branding it as "non-controversial." What a joke! Could there be any issue more "controversial" than the present status of Jerusalem, the holy city held in high esteem by both Muslims and Christians all over the world?

Obviously, it was not 378 elected members of the American representatives who voted in the resolution Tuesday; it was the Israeli lobby. The very fact that the House Republican leader, Robert Michel, found it fit to criticise the resolution but voted in favour of it anyway is a pointing finger at this reality.

So, where do we go from here? Whoever says we should accept the argument that the resolution is non-binding on the U.S. administration and therefore should not attach any significance to it should have his or her head examined.

There can be no doubt that the resolution comes as a reaffirmation of the American lawmakers' bias in favour of Israel in the Middle East conflict. It is a reality that assumed wider proportions over the decades, and the Arab World woke up to it pretty late. The divisions in the Arab World did not help either.

It is high time the Arabs got together and sent a resounding message to American lawmakers that they are undermining their own countries' interests by resorting to gestures evidently aimed at boosting Israel's self-assumed claims and assertions. At the same time, those of the U.S. congressmen who have always sought to balance their country's interests with what is propagated as its strategic base in the Middle East should be told in unequivocal terms that their ally's security rests in peaceful coexistence based on the recognition of the legitimate rights of all parties involved in the region's festering conflict.

Simultaneous with these moves, the Arab states would be well advised to nurture the voice of reason that are present in the American Congress, like that of Senator Dole and a few others, with a view to ensuring that the resolution that, in the final analysis, the American interests that they uphold and protect do not conflict with the legitimate Arab interests.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily said in an editorial Wednesday that Jordan-Palestine are continuing a joint effort to convene an Arab summit meeting, undaunted by any setbacks on the Arab or the international levels. The paper expressed the view that such a summit was perhaps needed now more than at any time in the past in view of the escalation of hostile actions by Israel in the occupied Arab territories and the Israeli-Western conspiracies against Iraq and other Arab countries, paving the way for an open aggression on the Arabs. The paper said that the Jordanian-Palestinian moves have been fuelled by Palestine President Yasser Arafat's visit to Jordan and his agreement with King Hussein to pursue urgent efforts to convene the summit. Indeed the Arab masses are looking to such a summit to be held as soon as possible because they are worried about the fate of the nation in the face of formidable challenges by its enemies, said Al Ra'i. The Arab masses have more reason to call for the summit now in the wake of the U.S. Senate's endorsement of the Israeli decision to annex Jerusalem considering the holy city as Israel's united capital, the paper added. It expressed hope that the Arabs will finally wake up and do something to thwart the U.S.-Israeli conspiracies directed against them.

Al Dusra daily also discussed the need for an Arab summit and asked about the reasons behind delays to convene it. The paper said that the Arab masses are wondering with bitterness and with anger and indignation why their leaders have been dragging their feet to meet, specially in view of the dangerous developments facing their nation at a very crucial time. The paper noted that there must be deep differences which are giving the Arab leaders a pretext for refraining from attending a summit. It said that if such dangerous developments as we are witnessing at the moment do not provide an incentive for the Arabs to meet, then it is difficult to see when they could ever convene at the highest level to chart plans pertaining to their own interests and destiny. The paper said that the current situation in the Arab region, the continued Soviet Jewish immigration into Palestine and Israel's stepped up arbitrary actions in Palestine as well as Washington's open endorsement of the annexation of Arab Jerusalem should prompt all Arabs to take a drastic action and make moves to safeguard their own interests.

Sawt Al Shaab daily reflected on a statement by the Israeli army chief of staff Dan Shomron who expressed his concern that Palestinian organisations and commandos could be allowed to re-establish bases in Jordan. The paper said that Israeli leaders are openly provoking Jordan hoping to draw a wedge between the Palestinians and the Jordanians. Israel has now resorted to such provocations because it has become clear that the Palestinians and the Jordanians are taking joint steps in the face of the formidable Israeli challenge in Palestine and in the light of Israel's alliance with the Western circles against Iraq, the paper noted. It said that Shomron should understand that the Palestinians and the Jordanians are in one trench fighting the common enemy, and that nothing could be done to sow dissension between the two sides.

LETTERS

ADC — peace through justice

To the Editor,

WITH this letter, the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) Chapter in Jordan intends to serve two purposes and hopes that you will be kind enough to print it in your newspaper.

1. Clarify the general goals and interests of the ADC.

2. Explain certain points raised in a letter to the editor published in your April 16 issue on page 4 and raise certain others the writer appears to have overlooked.

We would like first of all to thank the writer of the letter, under the heading "Disappointed," for affording us the opportunity to set the record straight and present a brief idea of what ADC is and what it stands for.

In principle, the writer of the letter has, wittingly or otherwise, highlighted a very fundamental element of the Arab approach towards resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict. This element revolves around the question of moderation versus headline, and intelligent persuasion versus unstructured rhetoric.

Since the letter specifically referred to the protest action organised by the ADC during the visit to Amman of an American Senate delegation headed by Republican minority leader Robert Dole, we will try to explain some of the key elements that governed our actions and will continue to guide our strategy and approach. Within this context, the following points have to be taken into consideration before passing judgement on the course of events at Amman Marriott Hotel where the protest action was mounted:

1. The ADC, which organised the event, is committed to the concept of intelligent persuasion and peaceful, diplomatic handling of any issue. We subscribe to the art of the possible. This was made clear to every person who stepped forward and volunteered to take part in the protest action.

2. This conviction of peaceful diplomatic approach has always guided ADC actions aimed at influencing world opinion. Our reason for this stand is that past experiences have proved beyond doubt that ignominious, violent rhetoric fails to register even on sympathetic ears in the United States — practically the majority party that can really influence and pressure Israel into listening to the voice of reason.

3. Hence, the protest staged in Amman last week essentially had to be based on defensible positions and justifiable actions. And that was the very reason that the ADC insisted on keeping the protest "peaceful and silent" as the writer of the letter rightly observed.

4. The ADC does not believe that it was "blowing up" that characterised its representatives' exchange with the senators at the hotel lobby. We made our views known loud and clear to the American lawmakers and handed over a memorandum explaining the legitimacy of the Arab anger over the Senate's recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

5. It was clear from our exchange with the senators that we were speaking from a position of strength; for it was apparent that some of the lawmakers, particularly Mr. Dole, had realised — after their talks with the leaders of Jordan, Egypt and Syria — that their position was weak because their resolution was totally biased and discriminatory as it violated international legitimacy as well as American principles of justice, fairness and long-standing official commitments.

6. The ADC does not subscribe to the theory that the senators gave the protesters the "cold shoulder." They were informed in advance that there was a demonstration in the offing, and representatives of the protesters would like to have a word with them. Instead of turning down the proposed meeting, Mr. Dole, the senator from the state of Kansas, agreed to the encounter, and the ADC made its points clear to him and his Senate colleagues. The ADC believes that the Amman protest action has had its own contribution, in whatever little way, in bringing about a statement by Sen. Dole later the week that he would push for a reversal of the Senate resolution on Jerusalem.

7. The in-depth information available to the ADC on Sen. Dole, who led the Senate delegation, is loud and clear: Sen. Dole upholds American national interests and principles above others, be they Israeli, Arab or anyone else. It is precisely this kind of American congressman that the ADC is trying to convince of the justice in the Arab and Palestinian cause, in a bid to bring about a fundamental change in the American approach to the Middle East conflict and the Palestinian tragedy. The ADC has no doubts whatsoever that a boisterous demonstration, with accompanying slogans and banners, would not have served the purpose of getting the message of Arab anger and indignation to Sen. Dole. If anything, it would have harmed the cause by further consolidating the image of a volatile Arab headline that refuses to discuss sensibly the realities and possibilities of a peaceful settlement in the Middle East.

8. While extending full respect to the writer's viewpoints and observations on the protest action (after all, we are now living in a democratic system, which we respect and thrive upon), we would like to point out that:

Despite repeated efforts, the ADC has been unable to establish beyond reasonable doubt that one of the senators did make a remark as "Jerusalem is Israeli and is united" during the protest action. We would hasten to add here that the ADC has no interest or intention whatsoever in defending any American senator who even dares to question the Arab rights in Palestine and Jerusalem (We would like to request anyone who heard any of the senators making such a despicable and arrogant comment to step forth and contact the ADC office in Amman).

The writer's observation that the organisers took extreme pains to ensure a "peaceful and silent" protest is entirely true. Maintaining order among the 200 plus people gathered at the hotel's entrance was a very hard task simply because emotions ran high and thus concern over the security of the visiting senators was indeed one of the preoccupations of the ADC (In this context, the ADC would like to point out that the "red carpet" that the writer referred to was laid by the Marriott Hotel and not by the ADC and that "respectable gentlemen" do not necessarily mean guaranteed security).

It is also true that the ADC objected to and removed two banners (not one as observed by the writer) from among the protesters. But it has to be seen in light of the fact that one of the said banners contained a racist comment and the other was openly insulting the senators. One of the main duties of the ADC, as its name suggests, is anti-racism, regardless of origin and target. Indeed, the ADC's anti-racist fundamental principle is the very essence of its existence, i.e. defending Arabs against racist discrimination, whether in Israel, America or anywhere else in the world (May we point out here also that the ADC and other participating groups in the protest had agreed beforehand on the nature and content of the banners that were to be raised during the protest, and the two removed banners were not among those agreed upon).

The ADC is not aware of any "young men wearing the black and white checkered keffiyehs" being turned down by any of our organisers from participating in the protest. In fact, the ADC had strongly recommended that, as many people as possible wear the keffiyeh and traditional Palestinian dresses and symbols as a silent sign of solidarity with the intifada.

The organisers requested the protesters not to shout slogans simply because of the very "silent" nature of the protest action. We believe that a silent vigil speaks for itself, creating much more of an impact versus rhetoric that can easily be made to appear offensive by Israeli-biased press. Furthermore, slogans straying away from the central theme of Jerusalem would only have diluted and confused the issue at hand and shifted attention to already well-known positions and attitudes.

We categorically deny the statement attributed to the "organisers" that "maybe we should have both doves and hawks (in the organisation)." What the "organiser" actually said was "maybe we have both doves and hawks in the Arab camp; we at the ADC respect the views of all." After all, doesn't both doves and hawks belong to the same family of the species "birds"?

As far as information available to the ADC goes, and this was supported by comments from Lower House of Parliament Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Taher Al Masri, carried by the Jordan Times on the very same day of the protest action, Lower House members were ready to meet with the visiting American delegation (The ADC later learnt that such a meeting was not scheduled because it could not be fitted to the senators' schedule in Amman, particularly after they included a hastily-arranged trip to Baghdad on the following day. If there was any disagreement or conflicting views among the members of the House, then it is the business of the House to resolve it).

The ADC, in its 10 years of existence, has a proven track record of countering anti-Arab stereo-typing, racism and negative propaganda in the U.S. and elsewhere in the world, managing to score several points in this regard. The records are available with the ADC and anyone is welcome to see them anytime they choose. In light of the above, the writer's remark that "the ADC should remember the Arab part of its label" is ridiculous and offensive, to say the least.

Ninety-nine per cent of the members of the ADC in America are Arab Americans. They represent, defend and publicise Arab interests, culture and political causes. They are not French Americans or Chinese Americans. Nor were we aware that the members of the Jordan Chapter of the ADC were Eskimo, German or Icelandic.

The ADC reaffirms here that the message of peace through justice based on unambiguous recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to independent statehood, as sought after by the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the Arab states, is and will remain the central theme of the international march it plans to hold in Amman in early June. If such a message is not a "correct one," then will the writer enlighten us on the right one? And also tell us how better to bring about a better understanding of the Arab cause?

For the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee,
Jordan Chapter Nidal Sakhatia

By Vladimir Nersisyan

A GREAT many viewpoints are voiced about socialism today. In the opinion of some people, from "deformed" socialism it is necessary to advance towards "true" socialism, and then towards communism at a swift pace. Other people believe that the foundation of socialism is still to be laid, and that which exists today is not real socialism. Moreover, it is no socialism at all. Still others insist that the barrack-like order of "classical" socialism provides the greatest happiness for man. In the viewpoint of a fourth group of people, socialism is like a blind alley in the development of civilisation. Therefore it is necessary to turn to capitalism, a sound basis, in their opinion.

Our striving for a "better future" is not the whole point. Of greater importance are the following questions. What can real socialism give to people? What is the future of true socialism? What is logic of its historical development? To my mind, answers can be found in the conception of postsocialism. The term "postsocialism" is used to denote, neutrally and briefly, the system which will succeed socialism. The point of departure here is that the system which has developed in the Soviet Union (and subsequently, socialisation, in one way or another, in other countries) is true socialism. It is a system under which private property has been abolished and the predominance of socialist property has been established. Essentially speaking, socialism does not mean anything else from the economic point of view.

History develops from inequality towards the equality of an increasingly greater number of people. If socialism is discussed from this point of view, it is a more progressive stage than capitalism. The crux of the matter is that bourgeois private property is an expression of the economic inequality of individuals enjoying legal equality, while the principle of socialism and socialist property excludes economic inequality. As to levelling, far from contradicting this principle, it has been necessitated by it. Levelling is in the nature of consumerism. Whatever the privileges of levelling, they do not spread to the ownership of the means of production. Under socialism, no one (no individual or a group of people, etc.) has the privilege to own the means of production. In this sense there is no exploitation of man by man under socialism.

Socialist property is the property of the entire society, of the entire people, that is, belonging to all and to no one individually. Hence its alienation from the people, its politicisation, or nationalisation, because socialist property both practically and logically can exist only in an abstractly universal state form, since state alone is the only official abstractly universal form of ex-

Capitalism, socialism and postsocialism

pressing and representing a society and an entire nation. However, a state form of expressing socialist property does not mean at all that a socialist state, like a bourgeois state, has its own property existing isolation from public property. In that case the USSR had state capitalism instead of socialism. Although the administrative-command system has usurped public property, the state has not got a right to have it as its own property. The Soviet people thus remain the sole subject of socialist ownership.

The crisis of socialist property has proved the need of its radical reform. Obviously it should be turned into the property of individuals. Such an individualisation of socialist property is possible only within two diametrically opposite trends. One is to turn backwards, towards economic inequality in the form of individual private property or that of groups of people. The other way is to advance towards a new type of economic and legal equality for all members of society.

If we turn backwards, it would mean that we acknowledge socialism as a historical mistake. This calls for a means to turn the socialist property "of all the people" into the private property of some individuals, groups of individuals, regions, etc. As a result of this distribution of socialist property, some people will get more, other people less, while many others will get nothing at all. In this situation property owners will be in the most advantageous position of monopolists, and those who have no property will experience the hard side of levelling. No urgent social measures can compensate for the consequences of such polarisation. The inevitability and the unfairness of such results of turning socialist property into private property are self-evident. This is an extensive field for dispute, strife and dissension over property with everybody involved.

To my mind, by going backwards we can eventually reach the multiplicity of economic forms which existed under the New Economic Policy, once again see that there is no return from socialism to capitalism, and once again move towards a monostructural socialist economy. The logic of the development of socialism calls for the transition from the principle of the absence of economic inequality in society to the principle of recognising the economic equality of all members of society. Hence every Soviet

citizen should be recognised, without any payment, as the owner of an equal-to-all share of denationalised socialist party

The equal citizens' property is the only way towards recognising the individual ownership of the means of production allowed to socialist society, and absolutely fair to everyone, i.e., corresponding to the principle of equality under the law. Because everyone, and not certain people, becomes an owner, such individual citizens' property in equal portions, is no longer private property. It is not levelling, but the principle of new legal equality.

Citizens' property can be likened to an equal share contribution by every citizen to the common stock of all the means of productions in the country, belonging to all members of society. In this case everyone is a proprietor-stockholder enjoying full rights. In this capacity everyone has the right to an equal share of profit gained from the paid use of all objects of common ownership.

The transformation of public property into a juridical pattern of citizens' common property means the following: The right of every citizen to an equal share of property in respect of all objects of common ownership.

A guaranteed equal share of money from the aggregate payments which are due to the owners for the use of all objects of common ownership.

After the introduction of citizens' property, all people will pay for the use of all objects of common ownership. These payments will be equal for all citizens. The periodic distribution of incomes amongst citizens could be carried out, for instance, through a centralised fund of citizens' property, or some other way. Of substantial importance is the fact that returns come to the citizens who own common property, not to the state budget. It will receive only taxes from all types of incomes under such conditions.

Hence property distinctions will appear and will further develop on the basis of citizens' property, without which commodity production, markets and improvements in the general well-being of society are impossible.

Effective forms of economic activity include lease, joint-stock enterprises, farms, peasant economies and individual enterprise. However, the way from socialist property towards them lies through

equal citizens' property. Socialism is a transitional system. It was expected that the abolition of the economic inequality of capitalism and the establishment of socialist property would mean an advance towards communism. History has not confirmed these expectations. Anyhow, the highest possible peak in the socialisation and communisation of property and life is already behind us historically.

Meanwhile, in the historical advance from inequality towards equality, socialism really holds an intermediate or transitional position. The master is that the absence of economic inequality as the principle of socialism is merely a denial of previous economic inequality, not the establishment of some sort of new equality. This starting point should be followed with a final and positive one: the attainment and assertion of a new type of equality.

The unparalleled difficulties in which socialism appeared and grew in strength can be attributed to the negative nature of the absence of economic inequality principle. This principle is the quintessence of all prohibitions of that period, the source of violence, lawlessness and non-freedom. Herein are the roots of primitive totalitarianism.

The existence of socialism as a transitional system without transition has inevitably brought about its stagnation and crisis. Socialism is now demonstrating the agonising dialectics of historical progress: at the cost of tremendous sacrifice, after getting over previous economic inequality, our society has become a hostage to its own achievements and has been held up at an unfavourable stage of its socio-historical transitional period because there is no way back any longer, while it appears that the predicted road forward is not in sight.

Advance towards equality leads to legality because equality is the basic principle of any law. Legal equality and levelling are antipodes. Law can exist only where free and independent individuals live. Equality under the law is an equal measure, or standard, of the freedom of individuals. Law is thus a yardstick of freedom.

However, the gains of socialism conform only to such laws which, in addition to the formal equality of all individuals, recognise their economic equality vis-a-vis the objects of socialised ownership. Of course, it is no longer bourgeois law (it is postsocialist law), just as equal individual citizens' property is not bourgeois private property.

This hard way towards law is at the same time a way towards equal individual property. A system with this kind of property and this kind of law can result from socialist gains. However, this is a postsocialism, not socialism — New Times, Moscow.

Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Naim Salem
Middle East International

Richard Attenborough — the conscience of the film world

By Robert Shelton

LONDON — Britain's leading film director, Sir Richard Attenborough, had special cause to rejoice when Nelson Mandela was recently freed from a South African jail.

It meant that a lifelong friend and companion in the fight for social justice was free. It also meant that Attenborough might yet have his dream for unrestricted viewing of his films Gandhi and Cry Freedom in the land of apartheid.

Cry Freedom is based on a book written by Donald Woods in which he tells the story of his friendship with a black South African activist, Steve Biko, and of Biko's mysterious death in a South African jail. The close friendship between Biko and Woods, a white newspaper editor in South Africa at the time, was a punishable offence under South Africa's apartheid laws. Although Biko was jailed, Woods managed to elude South African authorities and escape the country in disguise.

The film has just been released on videocassette and will soon be available in homes around the world, including those of white South Africans. "I have always wanted to preach to the unconverted," Sir Richard says. "There is no doubt in my mind that two and one-half years ago, when Cry Freedom was first released, South Africa was involved in a spilling action to discredit the film."

The controversy was typical of Attenborough, who spent 20 years getting Gandhi to the screen against tremendous opposition. The film chronicles the life of Mahatma Gandhi, the architect of Indian independence and self-rule, and includes a graphic picture of the racial discrimination that he and other Indian settlers faced in South Africa. When the film won eight Hollywood Oscars, it vindicated Sir Richard's long-time friendship with those in India who wanted the film made.

Today Attenborough is at work on two films that will make him many friends among the common people of the world: a biography of Charlie Chaplin, whose portrayal of a tramp in silent-film comedy made him a star, and the life of the radical writer Thomas Paine, who helped to inspire the American and French revolutions.

"Film-making has the extraordinary potential to make a plea for tolerance and a cry for compassion," the director says. And he has long been a believer in populism in the arts. "I don't like playing Chekhov in a barn to four people and a dog. Art is not an academic thing. It is there to be experienced by as many people of diverse backgrounds as possible."

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With all his posts of honour, Sir Richard is the embodiment of the best of British film and TV. He is chairman of TV's pioneering Channel 4, which always makes time for minority causes around the world. He also heads the British Film Institute, the British Academy of Film and TV Arts and is pro-chancellor of the University of Sussex, where two of his three children studied.

Despite these heavy commitments, whenever there is a call upon his abundant energy and good will, as with the Committee for Arts and Dis-

abled Persons, he manages somehow to make the time.

A likable man

Sir Richard is also an exceedingly likable man, quite different from his public image as star actor, director and producer. "Dickie never forgets his friends, and he must have thousands of them," a friend says. Casual and informal to most in his field, he is known simply as "Sir Dickie."

Born in Cambridge on Aug. 29, 1923, grandson of a baker and son of the principal of Leicester University, Dickie made his stage debut at the age of 18 in North London.

Another illustrious member of the family is Dickie's brother, Sir David Attenborough.

One small part in a Noel Coward patriotic film, In Which We Serve, led to his starring role as a young villain in Graham Greene's story Brighton Rock. Nearly 40 more movie roles followed.

He directed his first film, Oh! What a Lovely War, in 1969 and went on to direct The Great Escape, A Chorus Line, and many other hits. Among all his films, Gandhi and Cry Freedom are dearest to his heart because they embrace his own interest in Third World concerns, his love of social justice and his reverence for such popular heroes as Gandhi and Steve Biko.

Attenborough directly relates his interest in films that can change the attitudes of people to his early family life. "Any kind of racial or religious intolerance was anathema to my parents," he says. "They had brought Basque refugee children out of Spain during the Spanish Civil War."

"I knew as long ago as 1959 that if I were to be a director, the subject matter would have to deal with social circumstances, preferably in biographical terms, since that is the kind of reading I most enjoy," Attenborough's plans for filming Cry Freedom crystallised in 1986 when he travelled to South Africa. He visited Winnie Mandela, wife of Nelson, Helen Suzman, a parliamentarian who is well known for her liberal views, and Steve Biko's widow, Ntsiki.

Cry Freedom was filmed in the African countries of Zimbabwe and Kenya. The Gandhi sequences relating to Gandhi's 20 years in South Africa were actually filmed in India.

In an age when we are bombarded with mass-appeal films from Hollywood, Bombay and Hong Kong, Attenborough stands out in both Gandhi and Cry Freedom as a filmmaker who cares deeply about the people and issues that are the subjects of his films.

"Nothing could alter the



Sir Richard Attenborough

Attenborough directly relates his interest in films that can change the attitudes of people to his early family life. "Any kind of racial or religious intolerance was anathema to my parents," he says.

appalling fact that when Steve Biko died in police custody, one of the brightest, most charismatic, intelligent and fascinating men ever born in South Africa had been murdered. Steve's life became an inspirational rallying point for black people, not only in his country but throughout the whole of the African continent," said Sir Richard.

Now, as Cry Freedom is free to cross international borders in videocassette form, its arrival in white homes and schools cannot be prevented. As Attenborough commented when the video was released, "I can only hope, as do my colleagues and I know, all those who helped us significantly in

Zimbabwe, that this film might in some small measure help to sway world opinion and so hasten the day when all Africans will be free."

As the noted director now turns his attention to the lives of Charlie Chaplin and Tom Paine, he is by no means avoiding controversy.

Now would he be happy, friends believe, if there weren't some elements of controversy in his latest projects. There are those who love and those who hate that little tramp and that radical freethinker of another age of revolution. But Attenborough will be there with his cameras and his warm humanity, taking the side of the underdog as he has always done — World News Link.

Taiwanese folk opera struggles to survive

By Joyce Liu
Reuter

TAIPEI — A handful of stalwart fans watch Taiwan's elaborately dressed folk opera stars sing outdated, melancholy tunes from a crude stage.

But when Western pop singers like Cindy Lauper come to the newly wealthy capital, Taipei, thousands of feverish teenagers rush to queue for scarce tickets.

"What have we offered our next generation?" Asks Chen Mei-O, founder of the Han Tang Classic Music Institute. "All kinds of rock 'n' roll and classical concerts but no Chinese folk art performances."

Many fading stars of traditional opera, unable to make a living from their real skills, work as hired mourners at traditional Taiwanese funerals.

There they wait a "crying tune" from the opera and pretend to be relatives of the deceased to make the funeral seem grand.

"This is the saddest thing about Taiwanese opera, but some of them really can't find a job," said Lin Mao-Hsuan, executive secretary of the Chinese Folk Arts Foundation.

In an attempt to keep one of the island's traditional arts from disappearing, a government-supported body will open a Taiwanese opera museum in the northern city of Ilan, its birthplace.

"Taiwanese opera stands for real Taiwan culture," said Professor Lin Feng-Shyong of the Chinese Culture University, who leads a team planning the museum.

More than 80 per cent of Taiwan's people are natives of the island, descendants of people who came from the Chinese mainland generations ago.

The families of the remaining 20 per cent came from China in 1949, when the Nationalist government fled Communist victory on the mainland.

But because the minority controlled the government for so long, Chinese culture has dominated the schools, the airwaves and public performances for the last 40 years. "In Taiwan everything is

from China: Language, buildings, operas, and music. The only culture born here is Taiwanese opera," Lin said.

Taiwanese opera has no written scores or scripts. The tradition is handed down orally from master to apprentice in a time-consuming process, one that few young people are willing to undergo when they can earn a living more easily in factories or on the stock market.

Taiwanese opera was started by itinerant medicine sellers in the nineteenth century who sang simple plays with plots as part of their sales pitch.

It flourished between 1930 and 1970, when rich gentry invited professional groups to perform at their mansions for parties, and temples put on lavish performances during major festivals.

Even television stations broadcast opera and it drew some of the biggest audiences.

"Enthusiastic fans gave actors and actresses gold rings, chains, and necklaces," said Pai Pao-Kuei, a 51-year-old school principal who was an opera fan in her youth. "They would put up a gift list outside the theatre after the performance."

But as Taiwan grew rich, its native traditions lost their popular appeal.

Temples now invite pop singers to perform at festivals, and theatres host strip shows instead of opera.

"Students learn translated foreign folk songs from textbooks but they have no idea what Taiwanese opera is," Lin Feng-Shyong said.

"When I was still a schoolboy all my friends laughed at me and called me super-conservative when I said I was interested in Taiwanese opera," Lin Mao-Hsuan of the Chinese Folk Arts Foundation recalled.

Organisers of the new museum hope their displays and programmes will change popular attitudes.

Eventually they want to train a new generation of singers.

"Old masters are dying," said Lin Mao-Hsuan. "If we don't do it now, after all of them die, nobody will remember what real Taiwanese opera is."

Louvre Pyramid — beautiful and controversial

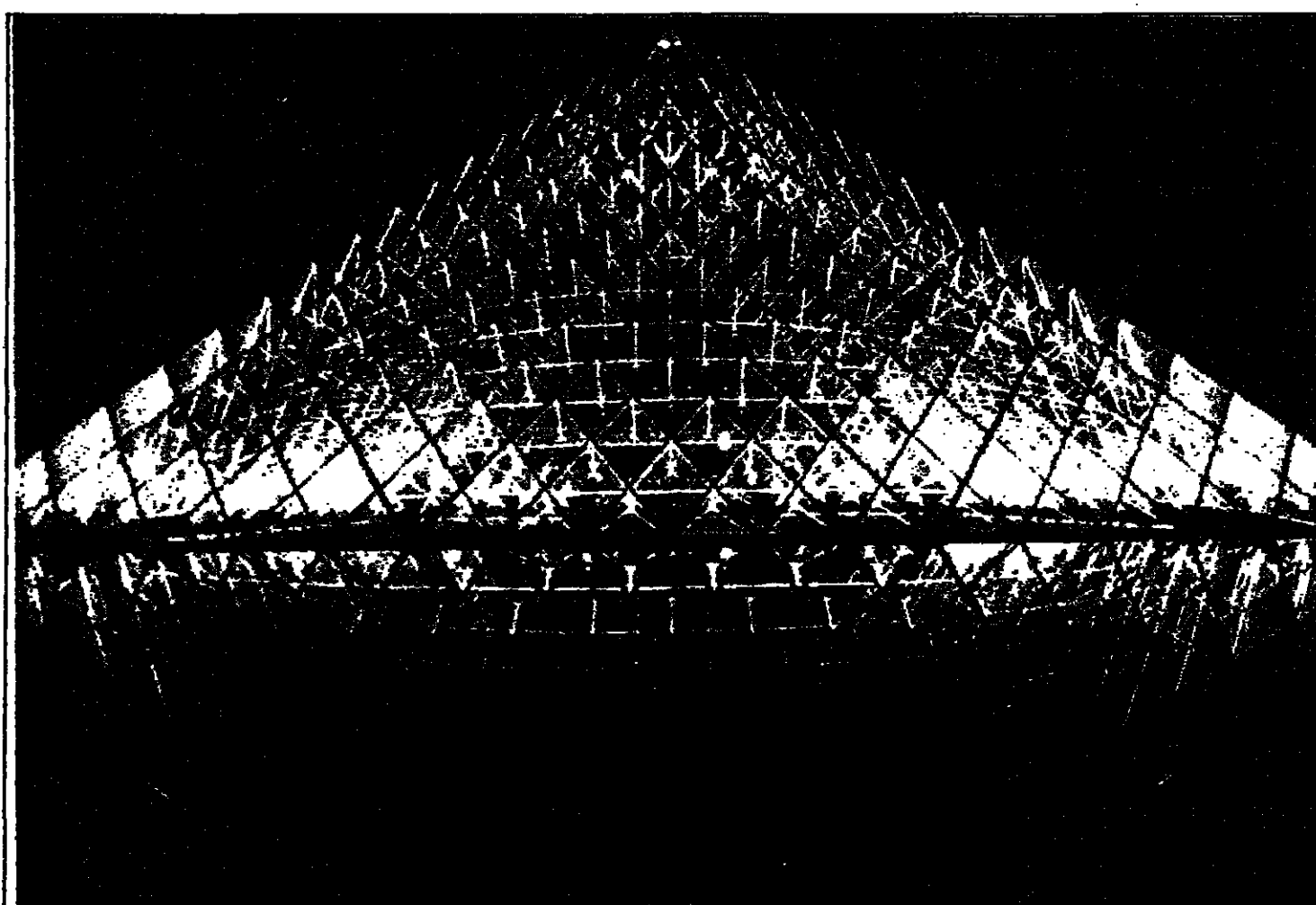
By Geoffroy Gausson

PARIS — The Louvre pyramid, designed by the Japanese-American architect I.M. Pei, is the subject of the greatest controversies. For some, it is "an admirable jewel," "perfect transparency" or a "window onto the biggest vista in the world" (the Champs-Elysees). For others "its place is in a cemetery," it is a "deception about the merchandise," a "volume incompatible with the Louvre courtyard" or a "gadget pyramid".

This huge glass construction, which now centres the entrance to the Louvre, does not leave people indifferent and reflects the taste, (or bad taste) of the period. The battle over the pyramid and its three mini-pyramids raises as much commotion as that caused by its illustrious elder, the Eiffel Tower, when it was built.

When Pei was contacted by President Francois Mitterrand for the Grand Louvre project in 1982, he had to face a certain number of constraints. He had to provide one of the biggest museums in the world with an infrastructure worthy of the name, centralise the reception of several hundreds of thousands of visitors a year while, at the same time, opening the large square forming part of the most famous vista in Paris, to the public, and enhance the Louvre palace and its surroundings (the Tuilleries and Carrousel Gardens).

The famous Japanese-American architect himself admitted: "It was not enough to impose a modern form, an eternal form had to be found



The Louvre Pyramid

which, by its proportions and its balance, would harmoniously fit into the existing architectural area."

Pei chose the glass pyramid which, by its simplicity, its airiness and its transparency, made it possible to "reflect the Paris sky, the water in the pools and the stones of the Palace". In the centre of the Napoleon Courtyard, it would dominate the reception area and would flood the main entrance to the museum with daylight.

A technological challenge

There were two technological possibilities for building the structure: either a support made of few elements, but very large ones, or, on the contrary, a more complex mesh of bars and cables in very small sections.

Pei chose the second solution which, just like through a mesh, gave a more continuous view of the facades. He had the pyramid resting on steel support placed reg-

ularly all around its base and anchored by bolts into concrete supporting girders.

The stainless steel structure is made up of bars from 58 to 75 mm which are welded together. All the bars are joined together by a trellis of single or multitwist cables.

It took seven months of data-processing by computer to work out the organisation of this network of tubes, knots and cables and to determine the dimensions of the materials according to the

stresses to be borne (the weight of the structure and of the facade, climatic forces and the natural deformation of the supporting girders).

Mountaineers for cleaning

It was a challenge to make strong, thick, heavy glass, respecting the essential airiness of the pyramid. After two and a half years of research, Saint-Gobain, one of the world specialists in glass, succeeded in producing a special, transparent, colour-

less glass, based on purer and better proportioned raw materials. It was assembled in laminated panes 21 mm thick, and the 666 diamond shapes were glued onto aluminium frames sealed with waterproof joints.

This complex geometry of glass and steel is to be cleaned by mountaineers. These real mountain-top guides, hanging in the air from harnesses and ropes tied to the pyramid, will wash the windows two or three times a month, depending on necessity, on the outside, and once a year on the inside.

The pyramid is lit up by 966 flood-lights placed around its inside edge. It is illuminated using the lace technique which is applied to the Eiffel Tower and brings out the delicate pattern of the supports.

Three smaller pyramids (8.06m at the base and 4.93m high) have been erected between the main pyramid and the Richelieu, Sully and Denon pavilions. They enrich the architectural composition and bring natural lighting to the main routes to the collections while, at the same time, offering a view of the pavilions.

Finally, the pyramid is surrounded by pools, five small ones and two bigger and more monumental ones, enhanced by fountains. The paving-stones, made of Lanhelin granite, show the way to the entrance of the pyramid, in a dense blue-grey, as well as the main paths followed lengthwise or crosswise. They also emphasise the outline of the wings of the Louvre.



Brandenburg Gate to be spruced up by 1990

At the end of march the bronze Nike, ancient Greek goddess of Victory, part of the chariot group on top of the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, was brought "down to earth." Copper-smiths are now to restore the quadriga, which is badly in need of repair due to the ravages of time and vandalism. The entire gate will be clad in scaffolding for a spruce-up in time for next year and the 200th anniversary of a monument that symbolises German unity — German features.

Post-Chernobyl contamination hazard still a problem four years later

By Pitt von Bebenburg

MORE and more people are planning to visit Eastern Europe in the wake of political change. Many wonder whether they will be exposing themselves to a higher contamination risk in the wake of the Chernobyl reactor disaster in the Ukraine.

The experts can't say for sure. Reliable data are not available for all countries, and research scientists are not agreed on the consequences of higher exposure.

"No-one can quantify the contamination hazard exactly," says Bremen physicist Dr. Klaus Bätjer.

Dr. Bätjer, a former university teacher, collects ecological data he publishes in the Datenrad collection on behalf of the Ecological Research Institutes Working Group.

One of its publications is a map of Europe showing three areas where average soil pollution is particularly high (over 5,000 becquerels per square metre). They are Eastern Europe, the Alpine countries and Scandinavia.

But this map merely shows average figures; they differ markedly from place to place.

"Chernobyl," he says, "has covered Europe in a pattern of leopard spots." Soil pollution varies in neighbouring

valleys and even in places 20 yards apart.

"As a layman you stand practically no chance of protecting yourself," he says. His advice to people planning to visit Eastern Europe is:

"Take enough food with you; the local food is more heavily contaminated." In some cases local food exceeds maximum contamination levels permitted in the European Community.

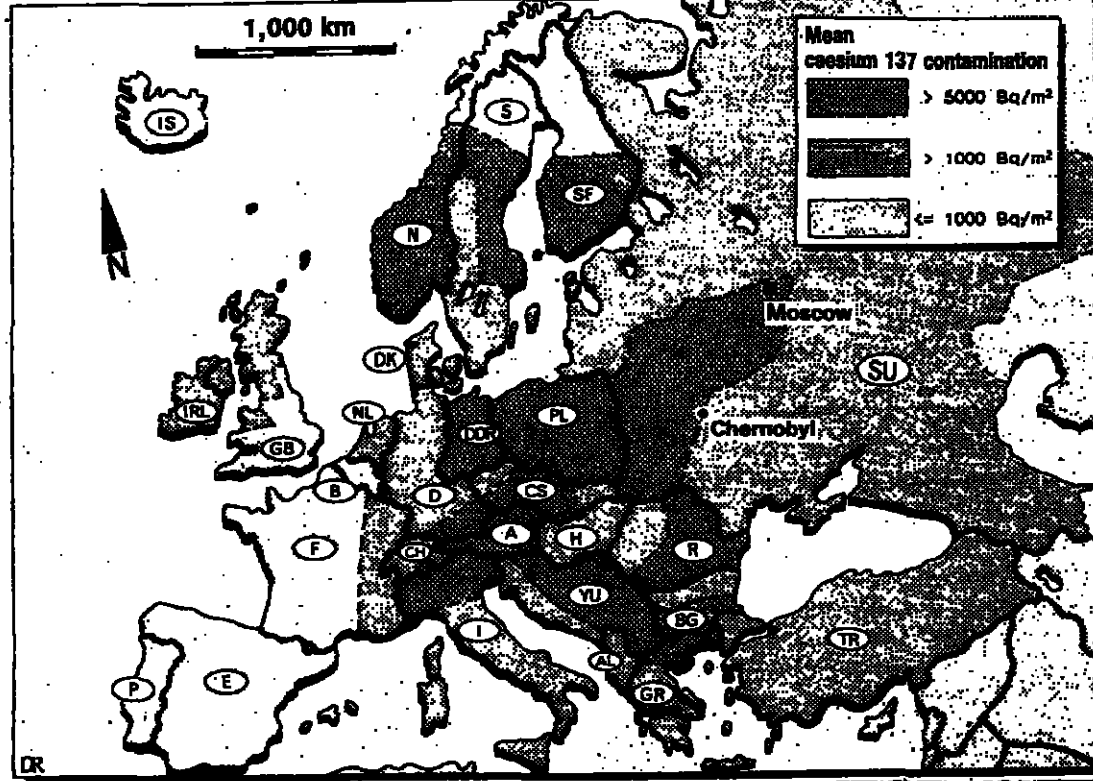
The Munich environmental research institute has analysed soil samples taken in the GDR. "Soil and food pollution," says its scientific director, Dr. Eckhard H. Krüger, "are roughly the same as in north Germany."

A strip of countryside along the Erzgebirge range is more heavily polluted, "about as heavily as southern Bavaria." And this is all four years after the reactor accident.

Once piece of advice he offers has nothing whatever to do with Chernobyl: "I would advise against visiting Wismut, where uranium used to be mined."

The soil there is heavily contaminated within a radius of about one kilometre of the workings.

Detailed data are only available for Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland in the West. Dr. Bätjer's collection includes detailed maps of all



three countries.

Three areas in Czechoslovakia have a particularly heavy contamination level in many places (between 30,000 and 100,000 becquerels per square metre). They are the environs of Bratislava, Ostrava and south of Prague.

In Hungary three areas are heavily contaminated (between 30,000 and 39,000

becquerels per square metre). They are southern Budapest, Gyöngös and Szeged.

All these figures are assessed, for purposes of comparison, at the level that prevailed in the immediate aftermath of the Chernobyl meltdown.

Now, four years later, they are probably down to 75 per cent of their 1986 maximum, Dr. Bätjer imagines.

The map of Poland is less clear, but experts estimate peak pollution levels to have been between 13,000 and 60,000 becquerels per square metre.

The worst-hit areas are between Cracow and the High Tatras in the southeast and along the border with the Soviet Union in the north-east.

Pollution levels in western

Poland are markedly lower.

The figures for elsewhere in Eastern Europe are less detailed. Bulgaria is hardest-hit, but Romania and Yugoslavia took a pounding too.

The Soviet Union is the textbook example of vague and inaccurate figures. Available only for the entire country, the average means Russia does not rank among the 10 countries with the highest level of radioactive soil contamination.

Yet tens of thousands of people living near Chernobyl had to be evacuated.

Various research scientists in the West are trying to gain access to more accurate figures from Eastern Europe. Dr. Bätjer's group is concentrating on the German Democratic Republic.

The Munich eco-institute is also keen to take readings in the Ukraine and has established contacts in Poland.

The Austrian Ecological Institute in Vienna is looking into the situation in Czechoslovakia.

But most projects are still in their early days and uniform data are not yet available.

It is thus hard to avoid areas that might pose a contamination hazard — other than by holidaying in Spain or Portugal instead. — Frankfurter Rundschau.

Officials fear AIDS epidemic in India

By John Pomfret
Associated Press

BOMBAY — Suprati Mahana has been working the fetid alleyways of Bombay's red-light district since she was sold into prostitution four years ago. Ms. Mahana, 16, doesn't know what AIDS is.

"Why should I force my customer to use a condom," she said as she sat on a small bed in a rat-infested bordello. "Besides, if the men give it to us, we'll just give it back to them. I'll go to a doctor."

The sprawling slums of one of India's biggest cities have become a breeding ground for the deadly AIDS virus. Health officials fear that if the government doesn't act fast, India will be faced with Asia's first epidemic of the disease.

About 10,000 prostitutes in this city of 10 million people are believed to be infected with the virus, AIDS specialists say, five times higher than three years ago.

Hundreds of professional blood donors also carry the virus although the government has been slow to screen donations. A 1989 survey showed the incidence of AIDS-infected blood had increased almost 40 times since 1987 to more than one per cent.

Many eunuchs who work the red-light districts of Bombay, Madras, and New Delhi are also infected, doctors say.

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is caused by a virus that damages the body's immune system, leaving victims prone to infections and cancer. The human immunodeficiency virus, or HIV, is spread most often through sexual contact, needles shared by drug abusers, infected blood or blood products, and from pregnant women to their offspring.

Of the world's 20 worst national AIDS epidemics, 18 are in poor countries, although the United States has the most cases, more than 120,000. Since India's first reported AIDS-related death in June 1986, at least 17 people have died.

In Asia, while Thailand has more people carrying the virus, Indian health officials worry that their country — with 880 million people and a weak health system already weighed down with malaria and tuberculosis — will soon top the list.

"We could have an epidemic situation in 10 years," said Dr. S.M. Bhadkamkar, the top health official in Bombay. "Every six months the number of AIDS-carriers is doubling."

Few educational drives against AIDS

But critics say Bhadkamkar and his colleagues in New Delhi have done little to stop the disease. After a brief flurry in 1986, there have been few government-backed educational drives against the disease. More than 90 per cent of the \$8 million used to battle AIDS goes into testing and less than 5 per cent into education and prevention.

Solutions from the medical community have also been criticised. Two years ago, A.S. Paintal, who now heads the Indian Council on Medical Research, called for a bill outlawing Indians from having sex with foreigners and Indians living overseas. It was never introduced.

"The government is doing nothing about AIDS," said Dr. I.S. Gilada, a crusading spe-

cialist on the disease who founded India's first AIDS clinic in Bombay several years ago. "They have their heads in the sand."

"In Thailand, they have posters on almost every street corner and condoms everywhere. In Zaire and the Ivory Coast, they use music to fight it," Gilada said. "In India, the professionals say they're still studying the problem."

Gilada, a government doctor, is a one-man anti-AIDS publicity machine. Bureaucrats accuse him of seeking the limelight, but his response is that the problem is too serious to worry about style.

When the first AIDS patient died in Bombay's J.J. Hospital in 1988, government officials told Gilada to certify the cause of death as tuberculosis, Gilada said.

He refused and publicised the death. The government tried to transfer him to a leprosy unit outside the city, Gilada said. A court ruling prevented his move.

Bhadkamkar declined to comment on Gilada's allegations.

Now Gilada spends much of his time in Bombay's three red-light districts, attempting to educate prostitutes and professional blood donors about the disease.

Prostitution is legal in India. Many prostitutes come from the countryside where at a young age they are married to one of the Hindu Gods for life. These girls are called Devadasis. Homosexuality is illegal, but it is tolerated if the men join the Hira cult, which worships Bahuchara Mata, a Hindu God who rides a red hen. Many of the Hijras wind up as prostitutes.

One organisation of prostitutes, the Neglected and Helpless Woman's Association, has crusaded, with Gilada's help, against AIDS. But its president, Rukminibai Barsode, said she has received no help from the government.

"A rich businessman gave us 10,000 condoms for World Health Day last April, but the government won't give us one rupee," said the 50-year-old madam, speaking out of her office on 14th Alley. "The government also ignores any attempts to keep our daughters and the young street urchins from the business."

As she spoke, three 12-year-old girls in braids and shabby dresses sat together on a rock near the door. They poked each other and giggled. All three said their mothers were planning on making them work as prostitutes.

Ms. Barsode said pimps have stopped many prostitutes from joining her organisation, which has 500 members. On 13th Alley, Suprati Mahana said she wanted to join but her "uncle" wouldn't let her.

Gilada has also called on the government to pay HIV-positive professional blood donors not to give their blood.

Partly because of Gilada's jostling, Bombay is starting to take action.

In January, Maharashtra state, which includes Bombay, began screening all blood donations. Bhadkamkar said. In May, it will start a comprehensive AIDS education programme aimed at college students, industrial workers, prostitutes and professional blood donors.

"We are committed to attacking this disease," Bhadkamkar said. "And now we have to."

Farmers learn to cut use of pesticides

By Jon Miller

SOROPADAN, Indonesia — A dozen men and women lie on their back, like spokes in a wheel, each raising a bare foot toward a man standing in the centre. Slowly they lift their heads, hold for a minute, then settle back.

After a moment, a tentative shout comes from the crowd gathered around: "An ashtray?" Then another, more emphatic: "A top!" "Wrong!" howls the group on the ground before dissolving in laughter. "It's an umbrella!"

This is no parlour game or actors' workshop; the participants are agricultural extension agents and government "pest observers." And they're all taking part in the world's most aggressive programme to wean small-scale farmers from a decades-old reliance on costly and hazardous pesticides.

One of those lying in the dirt in this central Javanese village is Russ Dilts, a non-formal education specialist hired by the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) to set up Indonesia's programme to train rice farmers in Integrated Pest Management — or IPM. Dilts is a believer in "discovery learning," and observers say his hands-on, team-building approach is one of the main reasons that the Indonesian effort has become a model for countries throughout Asia.

"In teaching farming techniques, there's almost always too much emphasis on the technical side," says Kevin Gallagher, an entomologist who runs the IPM project

office in Yogyakarta, about 45 kilometres south of here. "What people fail to look at is how farmers think, how they act, how they talk, how they learn — how they actually live their lives."

The principle behind IPM is simple. In Dilts's words, the farmer uses "the right thing at the right time." One of the results should be a major decrease in the amount of pesticide applied to a crop. Another is a modest increase in productivity. But the actual use of IPM on the farm requires a subtle understanding of how plants, insects and people interact with their environment — and that takes training.

The Indonesian government began to look seriously at IPM in the mid-1980s, after an invasion of a rice pest called the brown planthopper devastated crops in Java, the country's rice bowl. Researchers knew that a similar pest explosion in Indonesia and elsewhere had coincided with an increase in the use of broad-spectrum pesticides — chemicals that kill all the insects in a field.

They found that broad-spectrum pesticides destroy the helpful insects that keep pests under control as well as the crop pests. So, when a pest population develops a resistance to a pesticide — often in as little as two to three years — it can come back with a vengeance. And when formerly innocuous insects ride the wind into "clean," predator-free fields, they also can do tremendous damage.

Although there had been brown planthopper outbreaks in other South East Asian

countries, and even some in Indonesia in the 1970s, the loss of millions of tons of rice in 1985 and 1986 convinced planners and policymakers in Jakarta that subsidising pesticides and training farmers to use them on a fixed spraying schedule might be counter-productive as well as expensive.

In 1986, despite resistance from powerful foreign chemical companies, Indonesia dropped its \$112 million subsidy programme and banned 57 broad-spectrum pesticides. At the same time it asked the FAO for help in designing a programme to train farmers in more effective and environmentally responsible pest control.

"The only countries that really have a strong policy on this are Indonesia and the Philippines," says Dilts. "But a national policy is just a first step. The Philippines has also had a lot of training, but our programme is the first one to try large-scale training and real institutional change in the whole system of pest management. So it's not just policy, not just scattered training, but really trying to change the system and get something implemented at the farmer level."

IPM is not a concept. Studies of cotton-pest invasions in the 1920s recommended many of the same techniques as being taught today. The idea, then as now, was to apply pesticides only when necessary and appropriate. At certain stages of plant growth, for example, a crop pest is harmless. And at other stages of an insect's growth pesticides are useless.



Watching their crops closely enables Indonesian farmers to drastically reduce the amount of pesticides they need.

But pesticide companies have worked with governments for years to train farmers in "calendar spraying" — applying pesticides whether or not they are needed. As a result, younger farmers have never really had to study what is happening in their fields.

Many Asian farmers considered regular spraying to be an integral part of growing the high-yield "miracle rice" developed by the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines in the 1960s. Those varieties responded extremely well to fertilizers but were often susceptible to pests that had not caused problems before. Consequently, pesticides and fertilizers came to be linked in farmers's minds, Dilts says.

IPM requires that each farmer design a tailored pest-control regimen based on detailed observations. That in turn requires an intimate knowledge of the ecology of the field as well as regular scouting visits and specimen collecting. For starters, it is essential for a farmer to know which insects are pests and which ones feed on pests. Dilts points out that some spiders will eat up to 15 insects a day; beneath certain thresholds, what farmers might see as rice pests are just good spider feed.

Farmers must also know what is happening in neighbouring fields. That's one reason the training Dilts has designed relies so heavily on teamwork and communication. Village farmers' organisations are involved from the outset, selecting small groups of their members to

take part in training. Those farmers share information with their friends and neighbours, if not actually passing on the techniques then at least spreading the word.

Although some of the concepts can be passed informally from farmer to farmer, Dilts says that anyone who plans to practise IPM must undergo at least 40 hours of training. Mistakes in identifying insects or adverse conditions can be costly. The farmers now in the programme are being given between 60 and 80 hours of formal training.

But, so far, it hasn't been difficult to interest farmers in IPM, or to keep them interested. According to Dilts, it's often a challenge to persuade the farmers to go home after a session.

The training sessions are given once a week throughout an entire rice-growing season. Specially trained government extension workers and pest observers are the teachers. All the work takes place in the field, and it requires farmers to run their own, often sophisticated experiments. "We're teaching skills more than information," says Gallagher, the entomologist. "When the trainers leave, the farmers have to be able to do this on their own."

Critics of IPM counter that farmers aren't capable of making the tricky, often crucial decisions that IPM requires. But the Indonesian experience proves the critics wrong, Dilts says. "Compared to the government field workers, the farmers are much more careful about their counting, about doing

their experiments well," he adds. "They've never had this sort of attention before, or these kinds of resources. They enjoy it, and they really work hard."

Sceptics in the government have gradually been won over. The IPM programme now enjoys the support of several ministries and agencies as well as of President Suharto, who himself was a farmer once.

The Indonesian programme is only in its first year. By August it will have given intensive training to some 50,000 farmers. By the end of 1991 the number should be 100,000. Workers at the programme's offices in Jakarta and Yogyakarta typically work late into the evening, designing teaching materials and keeping track of progress at the 10 field stations throughout the country.

For the local staff, part of the excitement comes from being on the cutting edge of the work to establish IPM worldwide as the global threat from pesticide use mounts. The massive increase in the use of pesticides during the past 30 years has taken an enormous toll on health and the environment, especially in less-developed countries such as Indonesia.

"Nobody wears protective clothing when they spray," Dilts says. "We're talking about acute, deadly poison. It's an environmental hazard and an incredible health hazard." He suspects that thousands of people in this country die of pesticide poisoning every year, either from accidents or from chronic exposure.

Pesticides are also expensive. One fourth of all out-of-pocket farm expenses in Indonesia is for pesticides. Using IPM, a farmer can sometimes go an entire season without spraying, saving precious cash.

Critics have said that IPM's tolerance of higher pest levels will mean crop losses at a time when population pressures require increased rice production on less land. According to Peter Kenmore, who heads FAO's nine-country rice IPM programme, the data now shows that farmers who use IPM actually obtain higher yields. That is in addition to the massive savings in years when pest outbreaks cause substantial losses.

World News Link.



Even games come in handy to teach Indonesian farmers how to control pests with limited amounts of dangerous chemicals.



With two years to go to their countdown these five German would-be astronauts, two women and three men, are here seen in a replica of the European Spacecraft at the German Space Research Centre's training centre in Porz, Cologne. Three of the five will be

on board the D-2 space mission, scheduled for spring 1992. Another will take part in a Soviet space mission later that year. (Photo: DaD/DPA).

Astronauts to be trained in Cologne

COLOGNE (DaD) — The German Aerospace Research Establishment (DLR) in Porz, Cologne, is steadily emerging as a focal point of European space research. Esa, the European Space Agency, has decided that all future Esa astronauts are to be trained at the DLR in Cologne. Between now and the end of the decade about 40 highly skilled men and women will be trained for a variety of jobs in European space projects ranging from the Hermes space shuttle to the Columbia space station, a joint Euro-American venture. Between 1991 and 1993 a new crew training centre is to be built. It will cost the DLR DM50m and Esa a further DM160m.

At present almost all sights are set in Cologne on an ambitious German-American project. Two German astronauts are scheduled in spring 1992 to spend nine days in orbit on board an American space shuttle as part of the D-2 German space mission. They will supervise about 90 scientific experiments in the most varied

disciplines that can only be undertaken in zero gravity. Training to be an astronaut takes four years. About 1,800 people applied in 1986. Five were selected, two women and three men, and are now half-way through their training course. Three of them will become fully-fledged astronauts in 1992, two as D-2 crew members and a third on a mission to the Soviet Mir space station. In spring 1991 the lucky three are to be named, leaving the other two as reserves.

The costs of the two ventures are poles apart. The D-2 mission, which has been planned and will be carried out by the Federal Republic of Germany on its own behalf, will cost over DM800m. Moscow is charging a mere DM20m for the privilege of taking part, as a guest cosmonaut, in a Soviet space mission. — Wolfgang Weber.

Amazing French boats

By Jean Chabrier

WITH HER 4,000 kilometres of coastline from the North Sea to the Mediterranean passing through the North Atlantic and the Channel, France has always been a maritime nation. The surprising thing is that the sea, its activities and its problems have had little impact on the majority of her population whose vocation lies deeply in the land, with the exception, of course, of coastal dwellers who are naturally more concerned.

And then suddenly, everything changed in 1964 when a young Breton, who was a lieutenant in the French navy and totally unknown to the general public, won a solo trans-Atlantic race. That man was Eric Tabarly. His achievement, thrust into the bright lights of the news, drew all the eyes of the French towards that thing which they only knew from their holidays: the Sea. And that achievement was not his only one. It would be tiring to reel off all Tabarly has attained.

The consequences were numerous. First of all, it led to the creation of many international races across oceans, whereas, until then, only regattas had mainly been held, with far more limited ambitions and relatively confidential, reserved for rich competitors. Secondly, in its wake, it drew a burst of young talents and seafaring vocations whose breeding-ground is still the port of La Trinité in Brittany. Sailors such as Poupon, Terlain, Gabinet, Peyron, Loiseau and Jeantot have raised the French colours high and France can be proud to be at the top of the international classification.

To satisfy these young appetites, incredible technological progress has been achieved with the creation and mastery of multi-hulls, the use of composite materials, honeycomb structures, electronics applied to navigation, etc., not forgetting the humble "gunmaker's sock." French boat-builders made no mistake and have managed to gain top place in the world for sailing boats.

The French followed suit. And to such an extent that the last Boat Show was completely full, pleasure ports are full, the price of a mooring beats all records and the television programme "Thalassa" has top audience ratings, while nearly 40% of the production is exported.

It is interesting to talk about what has been achieved, but it is even more interesting to talk about the future, for research goes on and very high level research is being carried out in several areas.

The America's Cup

Everybody has heard about the incredible legal wrangle between the winner (whose victory was largely due to French technology) and the loser. The committee recently met and the rules were redefined without any possibility of a misunderstanding in future. France is actively making prepa-

rations for the next race which will take place in 1992 and trials have already begun... in Paris in the 15th district.

That is where the prestigious testing pool for hulls, created in the 20s, is situated. It is a sort of huge swimming pool in which all the conditions of the sea can be reproduced while a slide bridge records all the parameters the model undergoes or is subjected to, as the bridge pushes it along at chosen speeds. The "Normandie" and the "France," among others, and both French and foreign ships, were studied here in their time.

Marc Pajot, the future skipper, takes part in the engineers' studies on the 8 metre long (a scale of 1/3) model of the future challenger and impatiently waited for the prototype to be launched and tested in February. A few tenths of knot have already been gained. But 1/10 of a knot represents 185 metres.

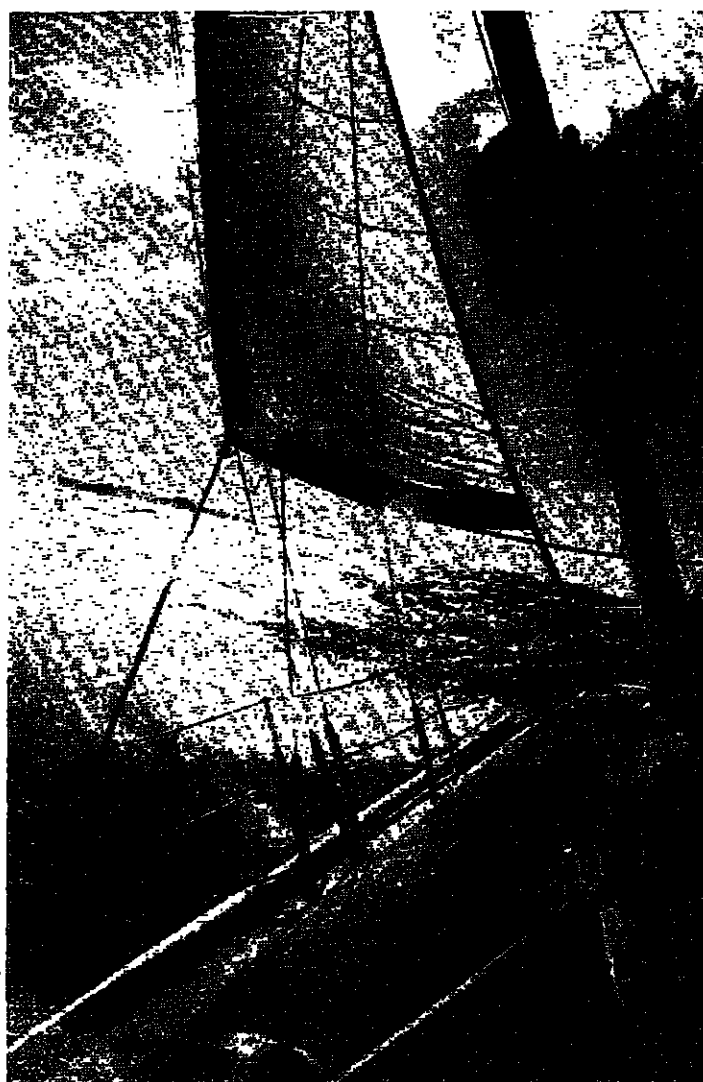
Pure speed

First of all, there is this boat, whose research was financed by the chemicals industry including Rhône Poulenc, slender as a razor, not unlike the Polynesian "prao," a single-seater aimed at achieving a record for pure speed. It recently attained 60 kilometres an hour. But it can only sail in wind and sea conditions defined to the extreme.

There is another prototype which is, perhaps, even more curious. It is an assembly of a few welded beams forming a simple platform. There is no hull, but two "foils" which make the whole hover on the surface of the water. There is no mast but a parachute whose sail area is controlled from the single seat placed on a cross-beam. Each foil is computer-assisted in order to work out the angle of attack at each instant and to the 1/100th of a second. With this, top speeds of about 30 knots can be reached, but it really is a sport.

There are numerous boats which have a right to this name, but they are highly technical and therefore very expensive submarines used for research, exploration or work at varying depths. SMAL is also a little two-seater submarine, but it is purely intended for underwater pleasure rides at depths of less than 20 metres. It was designed by J.M. Onofri, backed by ANVAR, and was presented at the last Paris Boat Show. It is very easy to operate and is already in use in La Ciotat. It is being sold by Société Marine Off-shore (13600 La Ciotat) at a price of a million francs.

The Glénans Nautical Centre already has a great reputation. It wanted to offer the joys of sailing to sightless people and so it had the idea of fitting out a boat with all the instruments and maps needed for sailing, but in relief. Some fifteen blind people benefit from this and, it seems, they manage far better than many a sighted person — L'Actualité en France.



A prototype of "Toujours plus vite" (Photo: Sipa)

Truffles — Italy's black gold

By Clare Pedrick

ROME — It's 5 a.m. and the sun has only just started edging over the mountains that tower above the village of Rivodutri, in central Italy. The temperature outside is well below freezing, but Florindo Zannini is getting ready to go out into the snow with his three dogs. If all goes well, by lunchtime he should be home again with a haul that will net him almost as much as he earns in a week at his regular job as a woodcutter.

For Zannini, 44, is a truffle hunter, one of a small but growing army who eagerly await each winter for the chance to cash in on what has become a multi-million dollar business in Italy. And truffle hunting certainly is big business. A morning's work will usually yield a kilo of the ugly but highly prized fungi of the tuber family, worth around 400,000 lire (\$350) to Zannini. In these parts the truffle is known as "black gold."

Farther north, in the foothills of the Alps, a rarer, white version sells for even more. A top-quality white truffle, found only in northern Italy, small areas of southern France and a tiny section of northern Yugoslavia, can bring as much as 2 million lire (\$1,600) a kilo on the open market.

"A truffle hunter around here will only work for about three months of the year, during the peak season in winter, but during that time he can easily earn as much as 30 million lire (\$25,000)," said Don Giovanni Balsimini, a parish priest who doubles as president of the Truffle Co-operative at Sant'Angelo in Vado, a town whose outlying oak forests are rich in white truffles. "I know one very skilled hunter who last year dug up more than 50 kilos (110 lbs) of highest-quality white truffles, which earned him an absolute fortune, around 100 million lire (\$835,000)," he added.

Down in Rivodutri, Zannini is hoping that this season's truffle harvest will help him pay for the wedding of his eldest daughter, who is to be married later this year.

Up in Asti, in the heart of white-truffle country, Andrea

Rossano, 43, has altogether more ambitious ideas. Rossano runs a truffle-exporting company with his father, and every morning between 6 and 8 he can be seen at the Caffè San Carlo, in the heart of Asti. Often he is accompanied by an armed bodyguard, hired to protect the suitcase full of 100,000-lire notes (\$83) that Rossano brings with him. There to meet him, sipping hot cappuccinos to keep out the cold, are Asti's best truffle hunters, up since well before dawn and now ready to turn their haul into hard cash.

Rossano himself has had little sleep. Before arriving for his morning appointments at the Asti bar he has already driven his Maserati to the Milan and Turin airports to put deliveries of truffles, carefully preserved in boxes of dry ice, on flights bound for Frankfurt, Los Angeles or Tokyo. On the previous day he was in London to deliver a consignment of truffles to one of the city's top restaurants.

"A truffle found during the night will be at Milan airport by 9 a.m., and the same evening it will be eaten in a restaurant in Tokyo," notes Rossano.

The finest slivers of white truffle can easily add \$50 to the price of a dish in the world's finest establishments. Some restaurants even bring precision scales to the tables of customers who order the highly prized delicacy. To the uninitiated, the sight of so precious a foodstuff in its raw state may come as something of a shock. Truffles have an unedifying appearance: the black ones could be mistaken for lumps of coal. The white truffles look a bit like shriveled potatoes when first dug out of the earth. Yet the rich taste (something like a strongly flavored mushroom), the pungent aroma and the truffle's legendary aphrodisiac qualities are enough to send many a gourmet into ecstasies in his wallet to pay the inflated prices charged by most restaurants.

"I was once called to make a special delivery to Bermuda," said Rossano. "A very wealthy man was on vacation there and decided he wanted to give a dinner party based on truffles."

West late last year, Kirchner stuck the leaflets promoting his services under their car windshield wipers.

Replies soon began to arrive. Encouraged, he advertised in national West German newspapers and handed out thousands more leaflets over the border in Magdeburg and East Berlin.

Dozens of letters are still dropping into his mail box every day from women ranging in age from 17 to 70. The majority are middle-aged and divorced, many have children.

"Many of them used to put false addresses on the envelope because they were still afraid of the Stasi (East German secret police), but that has stopped," Kirchner said.

The replies include a few hostile letters attacking Kirchner for appealing only to women from East Germany for men from the West.

He says East Germany has a huge surplus of women and West Germany has two million men too many, but statistics do not support his figures.

Kirchner's previous experience as a match-maker, as organizer of a local singles club, lost him



Truffle hunter Florindo Zannini braves the early morning frost to look for the precious tubers with the help of his dog (WNL)

In Italy truffles are often finely chopped and spread on toast as an appetizer, sprinkled over risotto and omelettes or, the favourite way, grated into a sauce made with garlic and olive oil and poured over bowls of steaming pasta. A popular trick of some unscrupulous restaurant owners is to throw finely chopped dried mushrooms in with the mixture to make the precious truffle sauce go farther.

Another trick is to pass off inferior truffles as a product of Asti. In an effort to halt the fraud the Italian government has tried to impose controls, even introducing a special exam that truffle hunters have to pass before they

can legally hunt. In Rivodutri, Zannini is one of the few hunters who have bothered to take the test.

Zannini, who lives with his wife and four children, says that the secret is in having the right dog to sniff out the truffles, which grow underground, often near oak trees and broom bushes. A good truffle-hunting hound can be worth as much as \$6,000, and owners usually keep them locked up to guard against theft or poisoning by rival hunters. "The dog must be small enough to burrow down, have an excellent sense of smell and be extremely intelligent and obedient." — World News Link.

Romance in the stars for Germans

By Richard Meares

Reuters

HILDESHEIM, West Germany — Six thousand East German women, desperately seeking a husband and a new life in the West, have turned to one man — Dieter Kirchner.

Despite all the attention, Kirchner is a happily-married West German sugar factory worker in Hildesheim, near Hanover.

But by night he becomes an East-West matchmaker, who sees romance in the stars.

"Many nice, good-looking men with lovely flats, a job and a car are waiting for you," Kirchner told the women in thousands of leaflets he distributed after the Berlin Wall was opened last November.

Since then, East and West Germans have been free to mingle for the first time in four decades and Kirchner, 50, has set up a dating agency to help them.

A keen astrologist, his only condition is that the man and woman must have compatible star signs.

When curious East Germans swarmed into West German cities to sample the long-forbidden

many but found him his 26-year-old wife.

The women may face a long wait to find their match. Only 220 men have so far paid the 400 mark (\$240) fee to look through Kirchner's files for a prospective bride. The first was an East German who fled West six years ago.

Once he has paid, the man may use the files for as long as it takes to meet a partner and set up a home with her. With private telephones rarely in the East, he has to drive over, knock on the door and hope to find her at home.

Kirchner says that although this slow process is a world away from the computer dating networks common in the West, he has already had thank you letters from several happy couples.

He is branching out with a special service for farmers and foreign workers, who he says have particular problems finding a wife in West Germany.

Along with their star sign, Kirchner asks the women to supply descriptions of themselves and their ideal man, and a picture. Since new snapshots can take weeks to obtain, he asks them to send any photograph they have. "One lady sent her wedding

photograph. She had cut her ex-husband out of the picture," he said.

Some of the divorced women hint at why their marriage might have failed.

"Please, I don't want an alcoholic or a violent type," wrote Barbara, a 38-year-old mother of two from Magdeburg, echoing a frequent worry.

East Berlin's Wochenpost newspaper, where Kirchner tried to place an advertisement, wanted nothing to do with him.

"Our country has been suffering greatly under mass emigration to the West. There is much work to do and too few people to do it. Most of our women work and we will not encourage them to leave by running such an advert," it told him in a letter.


Half a million East Germans have fled or emigrated to West Germany in the last 16 months and the continued exodus is bleeding the country's economy.

Kirchner says this is besides the point. "I am not pulling them out from an emergency situation, but out of their loneliness," he said. "What I am doing is the most beautiful form of reunification."

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Paris insists no devaluation as African franc zone meets

PARIS (R) — France opposes any devaluation of the CFA franc, currency uniting its former colonies in West and Central Africa for fear of stoking up political unrest in an already troubled region, French officials say.

The question of devaluing the CFA franc, named after the Communauté Financière Africaine, will be discussed at a meeting of finance ministers from the region in the Gabonese capital, Libreville, Friday.

But French Finance Minister Pierre Bérégovoy, who will attend the talks, is expected to reject the recommendations of private economists for a CFA franc devaluation to spur exports, maximise hard currency returns and slash imports.

"A devaluation of the CFA franc is totally out of the question," a senior official at the French Cooperation Ministry told Reuters.

The CFA franc is the common currency of 14 African states that, with Monaco, France and its de-

pendent territories, make up the franc zone. The countries are Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo.

The French treasury has guaranteed the convertibility of the CFA franc since 1948 at a fixed rate of a 50 to one French franc.

Supporters of the link say it has fostered political stability by keeping down inflation while favouring French exports to its former colonies.

Costly for France

Critics counter that maintaining a fixed rate is costly for France, now that African economies are in crisis. They argue that it forces governments to make savings by slashing public spending instead of adjusting the value of the currency.

"If an exchange rate adjustment cannot take some of the

strain when the value of commodity exports priced in dollars falls, there are immediate repercussions," said Jacques Adda, an economist at the OPEC Research Institute in Paris.

"In so far as a country wants to maintain the parity, and creditors are demanding adjustments in public spending, that means civil servant salaries and producer prices have to be lowered," he said.

President Felix Houphouët-Boigny of Ivory Coast took that path in 1989, halving the price paid to cocoa producers, but he was forced to drop planned wage cuts earlier this month after the most serious popular unrest since independence in 1960.

Gabon declared a state of emergency in March following weeks of strikes and political protest against austerity measures, and there have been stirrings of unrest in Chad and Senegal.

The case of Ivory Coast, one of Africa's wealthiest nations, is central to the zone's problem.



Pierre Bérégovoy

CFA franc devaluation was first mooted in 1987, when Abidjan defaulted on debt payments, and the current debate owes much to Abidjan's continuing woes.

But Paris is unimpressed by the arguments for devaluation. Ivory Coast has been living above its means, so it has to cut back on public spending — that would be more effective than a devaluation. That would help short term, but it would fuel

inflation," a French monetary official said.

It could also lead to a rush of capital out of the area. "A Bank of France study has shown that capital flight is rather lower from the franc zone than elsewhere (in Africa) because of the stability of the CFA franc. If you devalue once, people anticipate further devaluations, because the problems are left unsolved," he added.

Moscow tells Third World to cut defence

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Soviet Union Tuesday told developing nations the "peace dividend" was not limited to Moscow and Washington but should include disarmament in the Third World.

Italy, meanwhile, proposed that Europe give \$60 billion to poorer nations.

Speaking at a special U.N. General Assembly session on economic cooperation, Deputy Soviet Foreign Minister Ernest Orbinsky said military expenditures constituted 25 per cent of the foreign debt of middle-income developing states.

"The potential of peace dividends is not limited to Soviet-American relations," he said. "The process of international détente and the settlement of regional conflicts also permits to reduce military expenditure in the developing countries."

Orbinsky disputed arguments that savings from defence budget would be "swallowed by the domestic needs of the Soviet Union and the United States."

He said this was a "simplistic

approach," but admitted that the destruction of weapons entailed large expenses at the initial stage.

Italian Foreign Minister Gianni De Michelis made one of few concrete proposals of the session by outlining a plan for the 12 European Community (EC) countries to give one per cent of their gross domestic product to Eastern Europe, Mediterranean countries and other developing nations.

The total, he said, would amount to about \$60 billion a year by 1993 to include both multilateral and bilateral assistance.

The current goal in Europe is 0.7 per cent of countries' gross national product, with several nations in the community still under the goal. The United States also spends less than 0.7 per cent a year while some Nordic nations exceed it.

Italy said 25 per cent of its proposed EC aid should go to Eastern European countries, 25 per cent to Mediterranean nations and 50 per cent to all others.

World Bank to consider \$770m environment fund

WASHINGTON (R) — The World Bank next month will consider establishing a \$770 million fund to help developing nations join the attack on global warming and other worldwide environmental problems, bank officials said Tuesday.

The fund, which has been proposed by France, would provide low-cost financing to Third World nations for reforestation and other projects that would help improve global conservation.

"It's a fund to tackle global issues in the environment," said a French official, who declined to be identified.

Paris has already promised to contribute 900 million French francs (\$160 million) over three years to the project and has called on other industrial nations to join it.

"Developing countries are not going to commit themselves to pollution reduction unless they receive concessional (below market-rate) funds," the French official said.

The French proposal is on the

agenda for the semiannual meeting of the World Bank's development committee early next month but some officials expressed doubts that it would be approved at that time.

West Germany is likely to back the proposal, but other industrial nations have raised questions about how the fund would work. Some of them believe that what Third World nations mainly need are stricter pollution regulations, not more money.

As envisioned by France, the fund would be worth more than \$770 million and would help developing nations join multilateral efforts to clean up the world's environment, such as the Montreal Protocol.

That pact, signed in 1987 by 36 countries and the European Community, calls for a 50 per cent cut by 1998 in production and use of chlorofluorocarbons (CFC), chemicals which eat away the ozone layer that shields the earth from cancer-causing ultraviolet rays.

Other potential projects might include plans to clean up interna-

tional waters such as the Mediterranean basin and attack other pollution problems that affect more than one country.

French officials said the World Bank would have to work closely with the United Nations in deciding how to distribute the money.

They added that the proposed fund would be operated flexibly to allow donor nations to participate in different ways, including earmarking their money for certain purposes.

French officials insisted that the proposal has widespread support, and that the only question was when the plan would be approved, not whether.

"It's more a question of timing," said one.

Bank officials said the French plan is based on proposal by the World Resources Institute, a Washington-based think tank on the environment.

In a report last September, the institute advocated the establishment of a \$3 billion "international environmental facility" for the preparation and financing of conservation projects over the next five years.

Brazil expected to take tough stand in debt talks

SAO PAULO (R) — Brazil is expected to take a tough line in renegotiating payments on its \$115 billion foreign debt, the biggest in the third world, bankers and officials say.

The Latin American nation suspended most foreign debt interest payments last July in order to conserve foreign exchange and has accumulated arrears of \$5.5 billion.

Brazil is due to begin talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) next month about its economy before it begins to tackle terms on its massive debt.

"From their style, I think they will try to impose an especially hard position on the banks," said Jordi Wigerinck, a manager at the Sao Paulo branch of Nederlandse Middenstandsbank NV.

Brazilian President Fernando Collor de Mello has earned a reputation for tough economic measures, freezing the equivalent of more than \$100 billion in bank deposits to stem an annual inflation rate approaching 5,000 per

cent.

The programme also aimed to cut Brazil's burgeoning domestic debt service costs, which a year ago surpassed interest payments on its foreign debt.

Collor de Mello's economic team, while revealing little about its debt negotiation plans, has ruled out any debt payments until negotiating new terms. The president has also said that while Brazil will avoid a confrontation with creditors, economic growth is the paramount concern.

"The position of the government is very clear about payment of interest in arrears. Not under any hypothesis are we going to advance any type of payment," said Antonio Kandir, secretary of the economy.

Kandir said the government is negotiating from a stronger position than prior administrations, since Collor de Mello was the first democratically elected president since 1960. He also said the nation's bargaining strength was enhanced by the strong domestic

popularity of the anti-inflation programme.

Economy Minister Zelia Cardoso de Mello has said that Brazil will limit interest payments to \$5 billion a year, or about half of what is due.

Her position was strongly attacked even before it was formally presented to creditors. "This is not a strategy for debt renegotiation," economist Lawrence Brainard of Bankers Trust, one of Brazil's largest creditors, said a month ago on a visit to Sao Paulo.

Brainard said that Venezuela and Chile have made larger debt payments as a percentage of their total economic output than Argentina and Brazil.

Bankers, however, might be happy to see even \$5 billion in annual interest payments, the ceiling Brazil proposed. "If you are not getting any payments, getting something is a big improvement," said Frederick Gibbs, general manager of Lloyds Bank PLC in Brazil.

Arnault tipped to win LVMH luxury goods legal wrangle

PARIS (R) — One of the most complex battles in recent French corporate history reaches a climax Thursday when rulings are given in cases pitting an old-school business brain against an upstart tycoon for control of the famed LVMH luxury goods group.

Most analysts think Bernard Arnault, 43-year-old head of LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, will win, but his bitter rival Henry Racamier, chairman of Louis Vuitton, says he is also sure of victory.

The crucial ruling will decide who controls LVMH. Racamier, 77, wants the cancellation of a disputed 1987 warrants issue that allowed Arnault to gain a 34.5 per cent stake which gives him a blocking minority.

Last month, the public prosecutor asked a court of appeal to dismiss the case on a technicality.

"Hopefully, we'll be able to

put the legal challenges behind us, get back to business and further develop the group," said an aide of Arnault. "I would take bets on us," countered Racamier.

If he wins the key case, Arnault will be in a position to squeeze out Racamier from the Louis Vuitton chairmanship at a shareholders' meeting early next week, Arnault's aides said.

Behind the power struggle is a clash of management styles between the patrician Racamier, who married into the Vuitton family, and the upstart Arnault, who made his name in 1984 dismantling the former Bouscass textile empire.

The battle is also between two French banking giants. France's most secretive and powerful investment bank Lazard Freres has thrown all its weight behind Arnault. Racamier is counting on Compagnie Financière de Pari-

bas and Parfinance, the holding company of Paribas' former number two, Gerard Eskenazi.

Ironically, Arnault was originally brought into LVMH by Racamier himself because the Vuitton family could not agree with the other main partners, the Moët and Hennessy Champagne and Brandy clans, on company strategy.

It is getting to be a familiar story for old French businesses.

Confusing roles

"In all three cases, it's a problem of confusing the roles of a shareholder and that of the manager," Racamier said.

But even if Arnault wins Thursday's most important battle, it will not mean the end of the war. There are so far eight court cases pitting the two chairmen against each other.

U.K. posts second worst current account deficit in March

LONDON (R) — Britain Wednesday announced its trade performance in March was the second worst on record, but Chancellor of the Exchequer John Major stood by his inflation-fighting economic policy and hinted already high interest rates would remain for the time being.

The late morning news that the current account deficit last month was £2.18 billion (\$3.54 billion) — far worse than financial markets expected — dented the pound.

The British currency fell about one cent to \$1.6350 before the Bank of England intervened to buy sterling for dollars and European Currency Units (ECUs). By mid-afternoon it had recovered in Europe to around \$1.6325.

The worst monthly deficit — £2.23 billion (\$3.8 billion) — occurred in October 1988.

Major said the March current account deficit, 36 per cent up on a revised February shortfall of £1.39 billion (\$2.25 billion), did not reflect the underlying trend.

"There is a very considerable disjunction between the headline figure, which is very disappointing, and the underlying trend of what is actually happening with imports and exports," Major said in an interview on British television.

Asked if the figures would mean a further rise in interest rates, the government's main weapon in fighting year-on-year inflation currently running at eight per cent, Major replied:

"The reason for changing interest rates, if and when that might prove necessary, will depend upon a whole range of different factors not a very short-term reaction to a trade figure that is clearly erratic."

He said the March current account deficit was due to one-off imports such as aircraft and precious stones.

"If you examine the figures a little more carefully you will see that the underlying trend is that exports are growing four times as fast as imports... those are the really material medium- and long-term implications of what one can deduce from today's figures," Major said.

The government attributed half of the deficit to an erratic rise in imports which increased by £17 million (\$1.16 billion) in March against a fall in exports of £65 million (\$105 million) the previous month.

Major insisted the government's policy of high interest rates — the bank base rate has been at 15 per cent since last

October after rising in stages from a recent low of 7.5 per cent in May 1988 — would eventually help bring down inflation by curbing consumer demand and in turn shrink the trade deficit.

"I think the policy is working. I've always said it would take time to work and that we must be patient. But I think we must sit it through for a little longer," Major said.

"The policy is working. Interest rates are working and will continue to work and I think that will become apparent in due course."

The central statistical office estimated Wednesday the current account deficit and the trade deficit in the first three months of 1990 at £5.59 billion (\$9.08 billion). It was the third straight month it estimated as nil the balance on invisible trade from banking, insurance and tourism.

In 1989, Britain chalked up an overall deficit of £20.9 billion (\$33.8 billion).

Major forecast in his budget on March 20 that the figure would improve to £15 billion (\$24.3 billion) in 1990. But judging by quarterly figures for 1990, the annual deficit could run be around £22.4 billion (\$36.3 billion) by year's end.

Algeria shakes up state banking sector

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria has shaken up its state banking sector by appointing a group of relatively young new directors in a bid to speed up reforms aimed at pulling the country out of economic crisis.

The appointments, announced in the state-run press Tuesday, were made after the adoption last month of a finance code that makes banks, instead of the treasury, the country's main financing vehicle.

"The goal is to accelerate the rhythm of reforms and make this economy more efficient," one senior banker involved in the changes told Reuters Wednesday.

An economy ministry directive told banks last week they would henceforth assume the main burden of financing heavily indebted state enterprises and a current account deficit put this year at some \$1.5 billion.

The shake-up completes the reformist team in charge of finance since the appointment last October of Central Bank Governor Abderrahmane Hadj-Nacer and Economy Minister Ghazi Hedoui last September.

Diplomats saw the appointments as a move by Hadj-Nacer and Hedoui to put their own men in top posts and signal to foreign and domestic bankers that the system itself was changing.

Hedoui has complained in the past of resistance at top management levels to government reforms which seek to make state enterprises autonomous profit centers.

Abdelkader Djerdid, assistant managing director of the Banque Extérieure d'Algérie, the largest bank in terms of assets, was promoted to the post of managing director. Hocine Moutlik, an adviser at the Banque Algérienne de Développement (BAD), becomes managing director of the Banque Nationale d'Algérie (BNA).

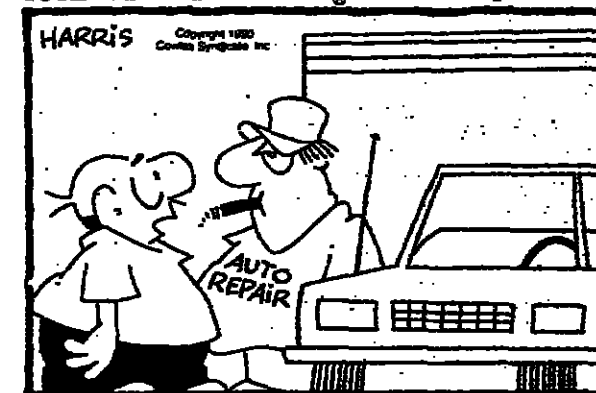
Omar Benderra, director of international relations at the BNA, becomes managing director of the Credit Populaire d'Algérie (CPA). All three of the new commercial bank directors are in their 40s.

Senior banking sources said the new directors were elected last week at a general assembly of the eight state holding companies which own the six banks.

Algeria's economy has suffered from a drop in oil and gas revenue since the early 1980s and a \$24 billion foreign debt on which service eats up three-quarters of hard currency revenue, squeezing imports needed for industry.

Current policy is to get Algerian banks to obtain medium-term credit from international markets at more favourable terms than the short-term suppliers' credits to state firms which have swollen the debt service in recent years.

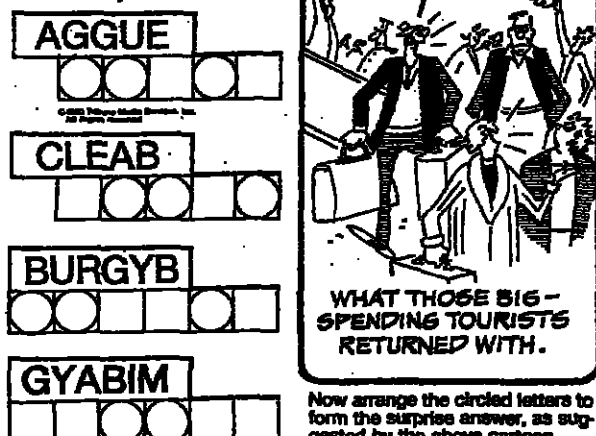
THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"I used corn oil instead of motor oil because I'm concerned with my car's cholesterol."

JUMBLE. by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

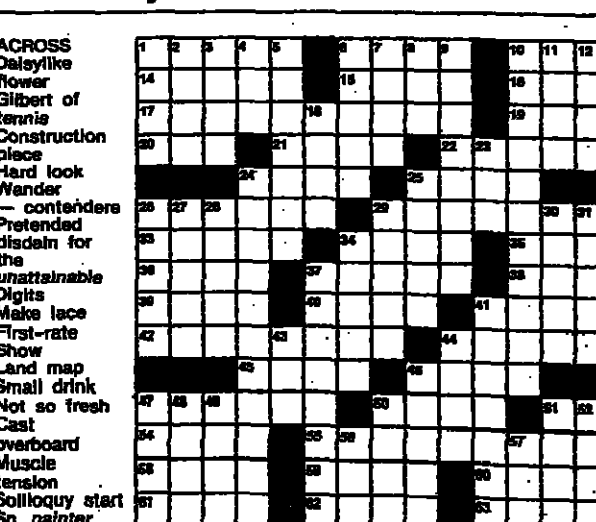
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer: "AGGUE" & "CLEAB" & "BURGYB" & "GYABIM"

Yesterday's Jumbles: JOKER DOWNY HOWARD HAZING
Answer: The gossip was putting "who" and "who" together and got this—WHEN!

THE Daily Crossword by Florence C. Adler



- | | | | | |
|--------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| ACROSS | 1 Delirious | 4 Sissy | 37 Shaped like a | 48 Dismantled |
| 2 | 5 Entertains | 49 Nurse | 50 Shadowbox | |
| 3 | 6 Goose | 51 Island dance | 52 Frosty | |
| 4 | 7 Larist | 52 Frosty | 53 Shippy | |
| 5 | 8 St. | 53 Shippy | 54 Legume | |
| 6 | 9 Renegade | 54 Legume | 55 Voice vote | |
| 7 | 10 Coward | 55 Voice vote | | |
| 8 | 11 Blessing | | | |
| 9 | 12 A Waugh | | | |
| 10 | 13 Kennedy | | | |
| 11 | 14 March | | | |
| 12 | 15 Lot sound | | | |
| 13 | 16 Tub | | | |
| 14 | 17 Dessert | | | |
| 15 | 18 Excluded | | | |
| 16 | 19 Mob and gang | | | |
| 17 | 20 Duck | | | |
| 18 | 21 Rental sign | | | |
| 19 | 22 Close by to | | | |
| 20 | 23 Close by to | | | |
| 21 | 24 Parlor | | | |
| 22 | 25 Warmer of old | | | |
| 23 | 26 Time | | | |
| 24 | 27 Cube, and | | | |
| 25 | 28 Gr. colonnade | | | |
| 26 | 29 Sheer linen | | | |
| 27 | | | | |
| 28 | | | | |
| 29 | | | | |

Mozzer faces cut from Brazilian World Cup team

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — The Brazilian World Cup soccer team faced its first crisis Tuesday with an impasse over the release of defender Mozer, who could be cut from the squad.

Mozzer, considered the "ideal sweeper" by coach Sebastiao Lazaroni, announced he would leave training camp this week and return to France on orders from his club, Olympique de Marseille.

Olympique wants Mozer back for the final games of the French national championship, which ends in June. Brazil's first game in the World Cup is June 10 against Sweden.

"I'm counting on Mozer and want him to continue on the team," Lazaroni said. "Unfortunately, there's little I can do. If the club can't release him, all we can do is let him go and call someone else in his place."

Other players on European clubs face similar problems. Careca, Alemão and Dunga are expected in training camp only next week, after the Italian national championship ends. And Dunga, Jorgeinho, Aldair, Ricardo and Valdo will be released periodically from camp for games in Europe.

But Mozer's case is more serious. Lazaroni has made it no secret that Mozer would be a starter on the Brazilian team, which for the first time uses a European-style sweeper. Tall, fast, an excellent ballhandler and header, Mozer was considered the top sweeper in Europe by the local sporting press.

However, Olympique last year refused to release Mozer for the America Cup tournament in Brazil and the World Cup qualifying games. Lazaroni called up Mauro Galvao of Rio's Botafogo club, who adapted well to the position.

Now, the French club is locked in a title race with Bordeaux for the national championship. The tournament gained importance after Olympique was eliminated from the Cup of Champions.

"The investment was very great. Now it's time to pay it back," said Mozer, who transferred to Olympique from Benfica.

Phillies continue winning streak

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — John Kruk had three hits, including a two-run homer and an RBI double, as the Philadelphia Phillies beat the Cincinnati Reds 6-3 Tuesday night for their fourth straight victory.

It was the Reds' second straight defeat after opening the season with nine consecutive victories.

Ken Howell (2-1) pitched six innings and allowed six hits, striking out five. Jeff Parrett worked 2-3 innings and Roger McDowell got the last out for his fifth save.

Cincinnati center fielder Eric Davis sustained a right knee strain while stealing third base in the second and had to leave the game.

In New York, Kevin McReynolds' hard slide allowed Mike Marshall to barely beat the double-play relay and enabled the winning run to score in the ninth inning as New York edged Atlanta.

Starters Dwight Gooden and Pete Smith both were brilliant before the game was decided by the relievers. The Mets won their third straight and Atlanta lost for the eighth time in nine tries.

Mark Carreon, who hit four pinch home runs last season, led off the Met's ninth with a pinch double and moved to third on Howard Johnson's soft single.

Mike Stanton (0-1) retired Darrell Strawberry on a popout and internationally walked McReynolds to load the bases. Marshall swung and missed twice before hitting a grounder up the middle that drawn-in shortstop Jeff Blaser stopped with a dive.

Blaser flipped backward to second baseman Jeff Treadway, but McReynolds' bruising slide sent Treadway flying and gave Marshall the edge he needed to beat the throw to first by an instant.

In Houston, Tim Lincecum hit a two-run homer to lead Montreal past Houston for its sixth victory in seven games.

Montreal's Kevin Gross (1-1) pitched six innings, allowing one run and five hits. Houston's Mike Scott (0-2) pitched five innings and allowed four runs and five hits in his fourth start of the season.

In Los Angeles, Mike Morgan pitched a three-hitter for his first national league shutout as Log Angeles beat St. Louis.

Morgan (3-0) struck out six, walked none and returned the last 16 in his 22nd NL start, en route to his first complete game since

August 1988 and his first shutout since Sept. 8, 1987, when he pitched Seattle past Cleveland. It was the third time the Cardinals have been shut out this season.

In San Diego, Dennis Rasmussen pitched eight strong innings and drove in two runs as San Diego stroked 19 hits and beat Chicago.

It was the second straight game the Padres' offense came up big. San Diego beat San Francisco 13-3 Monday with 17 hits. It was the Cubs' fifth straight loss.

Garry Templeton, Benito Santiago and Tony Gwynn each had three hits for the Padres, and Rasmussen added two more. Santiago has hit in 11 straight games.

In Arlington, Texas, Ruben Sierra hit a two-run homer in the ninth inning off Chicago relief ace Bob Thigpen, and then Pete Incaviglia came along and did the same thing, as the Texas Rangers beat the Chicago White Sox 5-4 Tuesday night.

Reliever Kenny Rogers (1-0) pitched 2-3 innings of shutout relief for Texas, which won its fourth straight game. Eric King allowed two hits in seven innings and Carlton Fisk keyed a three-run first inning with a run-scoring double for the White Sox.

In Milwaukee, Chris Bosio improved his career record in April to 12-2 and Dave Parker hit a three-run homer as Milwaukee beat Kansas City in a game featuring a bench-clearing dispute.

Bosio (2-0) gave up three runs and seven hits in seven innings as the Brewers won for the fifth time in six games. Kansas City reliever Jeff Montgomery hit Rob Deer with a pitch in the eighth inning,

and then Milwaukee's Chuck Crim hit Frank White with the first pitch of the ninth. Both benches emptied, and Crim was ejected.

In New York, Dave Lapoint won his first game since June 6 and slump-ridden Jesse Barfield hit a three-run homer as New York scored five times in the first inning, beating Seattle to end a five-game losing streak.

Lapoint (1-1), trying to come back from shoulder surgery last August, allowed six hits in 6-2-3 innings, walked two and struck out two. He pitched six shutout innings, then allowed a two-out RBI double to Harold Reynolds in the seventh.

In Baltimore, Dave Stewart won his 18th straight April decision and Mark McGwire hit two home runs and drove in five runs as Oakland beat Baltimore to remain unbeaten on the road.

Stewart, unbeaten in April since joining Oakland in 1986, was 0-11 prior to that in the season's first month. He ran his record to 4-0 and Oakland's road mark to 6-0 by allowing six hits in seven innings. Carney Lansford had three hits for the Athletics, the only unbeaten road team in the majors.

In Boston, Roger Clemens ran his record to 4-0 and Boston scored three unearned runs after a throwing error by losing pitcher Mark Langston of California.

Clemens, collecting his 99th career victory, allowed four hits, struck out eight and walked one in 8-1-3 innings. He retired 14 straight Angels between the fourth and ninth innings. California lost for the fifth time in six games.

IOC position on South Africa remains unchanged

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — The International Olympic Committee (IOC) said Tuesday it would remain firm on barring South Africa from the Olympics.

As it began a four-day meeting in the Yugoslav capital, the IOC's executive board said that because apartheid still exists in South Africa, there would be no change in the committee's policy banning it from the games, said spokeswoman Michele Verdier.

Verdier said that the board also reaffirmed a decision against having team events in rhythmic gymnastics, table tennis and archery at the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona.

IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch told reporters that all six cities bidding for the 1996 summer games "have equal chances" of winning when the committee votes on the host in September.

Belgrade is one of the bidders, along with Athens, Greece, Atlanta, Manchester, England, Toronto and Melbourne, Australia.

During the meetings here, the board is scheduled to hear proposals from applicants.

Organising committees from Barcelona; the 1992 winter games in Albertville, France and the 1994 winter games in Lillehammer, Norway, are scheduled to make status reports.

Lillehammer recently won financial guarantees from the Norwegian government and settled on locations of several key venues, including ice hockey.

Ice hockey is giving Albertville trouble, with the International Ice Hockey Federation threatening to boycott the winter games unless organisers build a bigger arena.

Barcelona's general problems with infrastructure will also be discussed in Belgrade.

New UEFA chief hopes for return of English clubs

STOCKHOLM (R) — Newly-elected UEFA President Lennart Johansson said he was "optimistic" about the return of English clubs to European soccer competition and would discuss the issue in London next month.

A Swedish Football Association spokesman also indicated that Liverpool might not have to serve their extra three-year ban.

The remarks were in sharp contrast to a speech by outgoing UEFA president Jacques Georges who said English clubs would not be readmitted unless the British authorities guaranteed soccer hooligans would not be allowed to travel to mainland Europe.

UEFA agreed a year ago to readmit English clubs in the 1990-91 season providing their return was supported by the British government who are looking to English fans to behave themselves at the World Cup finals.

Johansson said in a Swedish newspaper interview the executive committee of the European Football Union (UEFA) would discuss the possible return of English clubs at the end of May.

"I am optimistic about the return of English clubs to the cup competitions but we can never get 100 per cent guarantees against violence," Johansson

said. "But UEFA does not solve any problems by keeping the English isolated," he added.

Swedish F.A. spokesman Hans Hultman said it would be impractical to exclude Liverpool while readmitting other English clubs.

"I think the idea is to readmit all English clubs at the same time," Hultman told Reuters.

English clubs were barred from Europe after the 1985 Heysel tragedy in Brussels which claimed 39 lives. Liverpool, one of the finalists at Heysel, were given an extra three-year suspension.

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Canada thinks about gold

BERN, Switzerland (AP) — Team Canada coach Dave King says thinking about the country's first world hockey title in 29 years is, well, permitted.

"I'm sure it's crossed our minds," King said after his team came back to defeat Sweden 3-1 in preliminary-round action Tuesday.

Doug Gilmour, one of Canada's late roster additions from the national hockey league's Calgary Flames, scored the tying goal and added an assist.

Canada (6-0) is the only unbeaten team left at the world hockey championships.

"But we've got the Soviets coming up and the medal round, and I think we will find these games very tough," King said.

Statistics and history should spur on the Canadians, silver medalists at last year's tournament in Stockholm, Sweden.

There, the Soviets got the most preliminary-round points with a perfect 7-0 record en route to their 21st world title. Canada was 5-2, losing to the Soviets and Sweden, and then dropped the decisive game in the final round 5-3 to the Soviets.

And Switzerland was the host when a Canadian team last won the gold medal in 1961. Since then, Canada has won three silver medals and seven bronzes.

King smiled when asked whether he thought the current winning streak was doomed.

"Maybe not," he said. "All I can say is it would be amazing."

The Soviets held off archrival Czechoslovakia 4-1 in Tuesday's other game — marked more by unchecked rink emotions than inspired playing — and are now 5-1.

The four teams in action Tuesday have clinched medal-round berths.

On Thursday, Norway meets West Germany and team USA faces a difficult test with Finland. The points at stake will be carried over into the relegation round starting Friday.

The Americans have a 2-4 record and Finland is 1-1-4.

Swedish defenseman Thomas Eriksson opened the scoring against Canada at 3:48 in the first period, and the Swedes had several more chances.

"We were very fortunate the first period didn't cost us the game," King said. "In the third period, we started to put pressure on and not give them so much free ice to work with."

Gilmour tied it at 12:49 of the second period, knocking a close-range backhand from between his legs past goalie Peter Aslin.

Shawn Burr of the NHL's Detroit Red Wings put Canada ahead with his fourth goal of the tournament at 9:46 in the third period on a pass from Gilmour.

Brian Bellows of Minnesota blasted home another slap shot barely three minutes later for the decider.

Becker opens play at Monte Carlo Open

MONTE CARLO, Monaco (AP) — Three-time Wimbledon champion Boris Becker, in his first singles match in a more than a month, struggled to beat a French qualifier Tuesday in the \$1 million Monte Carlo Open.

Becker, the no. 2 seed, downed Cedric Pioline, rated 167th in the world, 7-5, 6-4, in the second round after receiving a bye.

Top-seeded Stefan Edberg of Sweden, also recipient of a bye, starts play Thursday.

Two seeded U.S. players lost second-round matches. Jordi Arrese of Spain beat no. 4 Aaron Krickstein, 7-5, 6-2, and Jaime Yzaga of Peru beat no. 5 Jay Berger, 1-6, 6-4, 6-1.

Becker had not played singles since losing to another Frenchman, Jean-Philippe Fleurian, in the third round last month at the Lipton International in Key Biscayne, Florida.

Becker had to bow out of the Count of Godo tournament in Barcelona two weeks ago because of tendinitis, then came back to play doubles last week at the Philips Open in Nice.

"It's not easy to start again

after being off almost five weeks," the West German star said. "It's different from practice because of the spectators, the second serves, the break points."

Pioline, 19, stayed even with Becker until 5-5 in the first set, then lost his serve. Becker held to win the set.

In the second set, Becker jumped to a 5-2 lead and advanced after Pioline closed 5-4.

Alberto Mancini of Argentina, who beat Becker for the Monte Carlo title last year, opened his play with a 6-2, 6-4 victory over Christo Van Rensburg of South Africa.

Jim Courier of the United States, seeded 9th, eliminated Michael Stich of West Germany, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4.

In other first round matches, Juan Aguilera of Spain, last week's winner in Nice, whipped Diego Nargiso of Italy, 6-1, 6-3.

American Jimmy Arias had the same score over South African Gary Muller.

March Rosset of Switzerland downed Sergio Cortes of Chile, 6-4, 6-4; Horst Skoff of Austria, seeded 14th, defeated Niclas

Kroon of Sweden, 6-0, 6-4; and Austria's Thomas Muster topped Uruguay's Marcelo Filippini, 6-2, 6-2.

Three unseeded French players had mixed fortunes in the first round.

Henri Leconte wasted seven match points before beating American Todd Witsken, 6-1, 6-4, and Guy Forget ousted Dutchman Paul Haarhuis, 6-3, 7-5.

But Yannic Noah continued a bleak stretch by losing to Czechoslovakia's Petr Korda, 6-1, 6-2. Since gaining the semifinals of the Australia Open in January, Noah has lost five tournaments in the first round and one in the second.

In second-round play, Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union, no. 12 seed, advanced when Spain's Tomas Carbonell had to withdraw with appendicitis.

Andres Gomez of Ecuador, no. 6 seed, beat Javier Sanchez, 7-6 (7-1), 6-4; Emilio Sanchez of Spain, no. 7 seed, routed Marian Vajda of Czechoslovakia, 6-1, 6-1, and Swedish qualifier David Engle beat Gabriel Markus of Argentina, 7-5, 6-4.

Italian title hopes rest on strong defence, new attacker

MILAN, Italy (AP) — A strong defence and a brilliant new attacker have buoyed Italy's hopes of winning an unprecedented fourth World Cup soccer title.

Salvatore "Toto" Schillaci, who plays centre forward for Juventus of Turin, was elevated to the national team only last month, but Italian fans already see him as the new Paolo Rossi.

A last-minute entry at the 1982 World Cup, Rossi scored six key goals on the way to Italy's surprise triumph in Spain.

Schillaci could be the right man to support the team's top striker, Gianluca Vialli, and make the offence faster and sharper. A weak attack has been Italy's most obvious problem in recent warm-up matches.

Based on the home advantage, English boomers recently made Italy their no. 1 favourite in the one-month tournament, which kicks off June 8 in Milan.

Host teams have won three of the last six World Cup tournaments.

Italy was once criticised for its tactical plan of tight defence and fast counterattacks. But most teams have since adopted the Italian style of play, which means low-scoring games are likely to decide the championship.

Italian coach Azeglio Vicini underlined the emphasis on defence in assessing his team's performances in World Cup warm-ups.

"We scored a few goals, that's not very good," he said. "But we

allowed only one, which is certainly good for a team which aims at the world title."

After losing 1-0 to Brazil on a free kick, Italy played goalless draws with England, Argentina and the Netherlands and then gained narrow 1-0 victories over Algeria and Switzerland.

Italy's weak offence in warmup games resulted from unimaginative play by midfielder Giuseppe Giannini and Vialli's inconsistencies.

Recognised as one of Europe's brightest stars for the past three years, Vialli has been troubled by a foot injury and the coach's overly-cautious tactics. He has been shut out in six consecutive international games.

Vicini, who replaced Enzo Bearzot following Italy's flop at the 1986 championship in Mexico, has resisted pressure to replace Giannini with Roberto Baggio as the midfield mastermind.

Schillaci, a 25-year-old catquick Sicilian forward, was called up after tallying 14 goals — one less than Argentine superstar Diego Maradona of Napoli — in his first year in the major league.

Schillaci made a much-praised debut against Switzerland when Vialli was sidelined with an injury. It remains to be seen whether the two can work together.

The coach will be unable to test Vialli and Schillaci in action prior to the World Cup because Italy has completed its programme of exhibition games. But the two

forwards will have an opportunity to develop teamwork at the Italian training camp in Coverciano, near Florence, starting May 5.

Players for costumed rivals A.C. Milan and Internazionale form the backbone of Italy's tough defence.

Athletic and agile Walter Zenga, considered one of the best European goalies, is part of a rock solid defensive wall along with Giuseppe Bergomi, Riccardo Ferri, Paolo Maldini and Franco Baresi.

Baresi, the sweeper, has excelled both in defensive situations and in supporting midfield play after years of experience with European club champion A.C. Milan.

Bergomi, the only survivor of the successful 1982 team, has earned an international reputation for his cool, faultless performances and his offensive raids — the attacking-defender style that is shared by the other back on the national team, young Maldini.

Midfield play is supported by Milan's imaginative winger Roberto Donadoni, Napoli's tireless Fernando De Napoli, Nicola Berti of Internazionale and the much-criticised Giannini.

Depending on the tactical needs of each match, Vicini has the option to field an added midfielder — veteran Carlo Ancelotti of Milan or Giancarlo Marchi of Juventus — a midfielder-forward, Baggio, or a forward, Andrea Carnevale.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAINAN HIRSHI © 1990 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

USE YOUR ASSETS WISELY

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ A Q 8 5 2
♥ K J 9
♦ A 3
♣ A K 3

WEST EAST
♠ J 10 ♠ K 9 7 6 3
♥ 7 4 ♥ 6 5 2
♦ K 9 6 5 4 ♦ 10 7
♣ 8 5 2 ♣ 9 7 4

SOUTH
♠ 4
♥ A Q 10 8 3
♦ Q 8 2
♣ J 10 6

The bidding:
North East South West
2 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
5 NT Pass 7 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠. Before playing to the first trick, count your winners. Then make sure that you plan a line of play that will produce at least the number of tricks you need for your contract.

When South showed a heart suit, North's hand improved considerably. It contained a wealth of controls, good support and a ruffing value. North conveyed that with a cue-bid of his cheapest ace and South's return cue-bid showed second-round spade control and slam aspirations. North launched into the Grand Slam Force, and an ambi-

tious contract of seven hearts was reached when South held the two missing-top trump honors.

West led the jack of spades, and there were only 11 fast tricks in sight. In view of the opening lead, the spade finesse was unlikely to succeed. One way to develop the extra tricks was to try to set up the spade suit. In the process, declarer came up with a remarkable dummy reversal.

South won the first trick with the ace and immediately ruffed a spade, noting the fall of the ten from West. A club to the king and another spade ruff confirmed the bad break in that suit. Now declarer had to hope for a 3-2 trump break. Using the table's other club winner and ace of diamonds, in that order, as entries, declarer ruffed two more spades, the last with the ace of trumps. He still had a heart left with which to cross to the board to draw trumps. Declarer was then able to take two more club tricks in hand to bring home the bacon. In all, he made seven trump tricks (four via ruffs), one spade, one diamond and four clubs.

RAINBOW

Tel: 625155

Mel Gibson — Michelle Pfeiffer in
TEQUILA SUNRISE

Performances: 9:30, 8:30, 10:30

CONCORD

Tel: 677420

Nabila Obeld in
THE DANCER & THE POLITICIAN
(Arabic)



Performances: 9:30, 8:30, 10:30

PHILADELPHIA

Tel: 634144

SALVADOR

Performances: 6:00, 8:30, 10:45 p.m.

DISCO FEVER

Performances: 12:30, 3:00, 4:30 p.m.



NIJOUN

Tel: 675571

Happy Eid Al Fitr
and Many Happy Returns
Adel Imam... In
Hanafi the Great
(Hanafi Al Ubbahah)

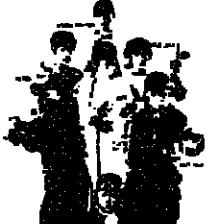
Starring: Fairuz Fishawi, Huda Ramzi.

Performances: 11:00 a.m., 1:15 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 6:15 p.m., 8:30 p.m., 10:30 p.m.

PLAZA

Tel: 699238

1) PICASSO TRIGGER
2) LUCKY SEVEN



Performances: 9:30, 8:30, 10:30

King backs Nepal's new government violence

KATHMANDU (Agencies) — Nepal's King Birendra threw his weight behind the reformist new government Wednesday, appealing for complete support for its mission to create a multi-party democracy.

The appeal was made in a palace statement after nearly 200 policemen stayed away from work Tuesday in anger over the killing of at least six colleagues by mobs in Kathmandu Monday.

Many people in the crowds and posters on walls accused the police of working for monarchist groups intent on undermining the new government and preserving the king's absolute powers.

"His Majesty is confident that all Nepalis will rise to the occasion and extend full cooperation to Prime Minister Krishna Prasad Bhattarai and the council of ministers in the discharge of their duties," the statement said.

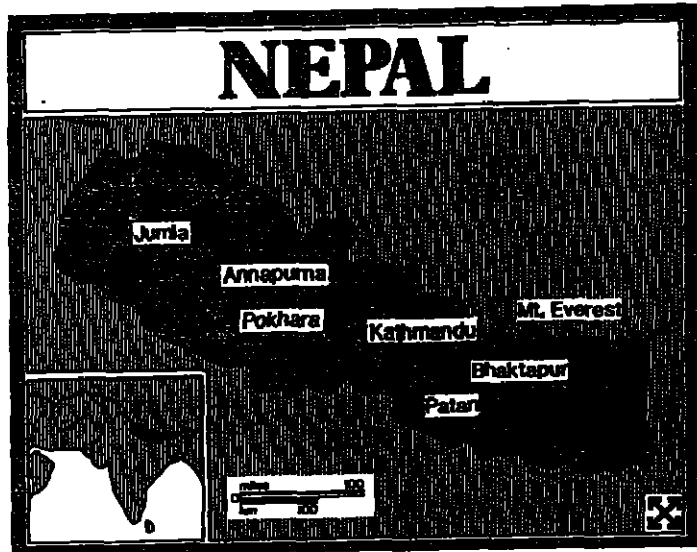
The royal appeal was also aimed at reassuring Bhattarai's government of democracy campaigners of the king's support in its bid to take control of the army and the police.

"The appeal of the king has been of great help," home (Interior) Minister Yog Prasad Upadhyay told Reuters.

Younger members of Bhattarai's council of ministers had expressed concern over the functioning of the two forces, official sources said.

The liberal Nepali Congress Party and a left front of communist factions, now joined in an interim government, spearheaded a movement for radical reforms that brought them to legality and power amid large scale demonstrations when Birendra dismissed the previous non-party government.

The government is committed to multi-party elections within a year and to revising the constitution to reduce Birendra's powers. The current constitution says all powers emanate from the throne.



The young politicians said at a meeting called to review the situation after the eruption of mob fury against policemen Monday that the government would be unable to function effectively without the full support of the army and police, both of which are widely regarded as monarchists.

Policemen were the main target in Monday's unrest. Upadhyay said six policemen and three civilians were killed. Radio Nepal said at least 14 people died.

The violence caused nearly 200 policemen to stay away from work in anger and fear Tuesday, Upadhyay said.

"They were much agitated. But they have now come back to work," he added.

The government imposed a curfew after Monday's violence, when security forces ceded control of the streets to the crowds for eight hours before moving in with tear gas, baton and gunfire. Upadhyay said the situation was now returning to normal except for a few stray incidents of violence, which he did not detail.

He would not say whether the dusk-to-dawn curfews, imposed Monday and Tuesday, would continue. Upadhyay told reporters Tuesday the new government might have to rely on the army to put down unrest "in a limited way if a

law-and-order situation arises." The doctor at Bir Hospital, the largest in Kathmandu, said the two policemen mentioned by the anonymous callers died from mob beatings and not from any actions by the doctors.

"It's ridiculous that we would have killed those people," he said.

The doctor added, however, that the telephone threats were being taken seriously.

"We called the soldiers to protect ourselves from mobs, rowdies, policemen or Mandales," he said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

According to the doctor, the hospital admitted 13 policemen on Monday. Two died immediately after arrival, and the rest were seriously injured, he said.

A police doctor and a policeman came to the hospital Tuesday and took the two bodies and 10 of the injured policemen, the doctor said. Another policeman with a head wound was still at the hospital.

About 150 policemen joined the procession carrying the police officers' bodies to cremation grounds where they were burned in keeping with Hindu religious ritual, witnesses said.

Outside Bir Hospital, at least 50 soldiers armed with automatic rifles and machine guns mounted on jeeps and trucks stood guard.

Solidarity congress ends with option to form party

GDANSK (AP) — Solidarity ended its second national congress Wednesday after an all-night session attended by its chairman, Lech Walesa, who said the labour movement is now united to face Poland's problems.

"Now we have the mandate. We are organised for when life brings its problems," Walesa said from the rostrum as the congress ended at 8 a.m. (0600 GMT), just as he had predicted the previous night.

The seven-day congress re-elected Walesa as chairman, approved a new charter and programme, and chose a 96-member national commission, ending a long-simmering dispute about the legitimacy of Solidarity's leadership structure after the chaos caused by martial law in 1981.

The new programme calls for Solidarity to concentrate mainly on trade union issues while withdrawing totally from its role as a broad political movement.

The union retains the option to create its own political party if it sees the need. "The solutions are not perfect, but in the present situation, perfect solutions do not exist," Walesa said.

"The essence of the congress was — when a chance lies ahead for the country — to be united and organised. As a practical person, I am happy about this," he said.

The congress resulted in an overwhelming vote of confidence in Walesa's leadership since the union's first congress in October 1981, spanning its years as an underground organisation and the long negotiations that resulted in restoration of its legal status a year ago.

The same talks opened the door to a Solidarity-led government for Poland, helping to spark reforms across the East Bloc.

"The position of Walesa is now really indisputable," said one Warsaw delegate, Marcin Przybylowicz.

Nevertheless, Walesa did come under criticism for his authoritarian style of leadership during the debates. In his closing remarks, Walesa appeared to be trying to make amends.

"This congress brought a few surprises. It did not go exactly along with my concept. But I never took the floor — even though my tongue was jumping out — because I did not want to disturb democracy," he said.

Many delegates emerged from the meeting convinced that Walesa is planning a bid for Poland's presidency using the union as a base.

Walesa has been evasive in discussing his possible presidential plan, which would require President Wojciech Jaruzelski to step down before his term ends in 1995. The congress, however, passed a resolution calling for new parliamentary and presidential elections by the spring of 1991.

"He is citizen no. 1 in this country and if the alternative is Jaruzelski, of course it is great" if he runs, said delegate Jan Waszkiewicz of Wrocław.

But other union members appeared disappointed at the prospect.

"Myself and others would feel cheated if he ran for the chairman of the union with the intention to becoming president," said Alojzy Pietrzyk, the miners' leader for Silesia.

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S. African white extremist leader warns ANC to stop violence

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — A top right-wing leader has warned that whites are arming and will retaliate unless Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) ends armed resistance, according to a report Wednesday.

Police said Wednesday two police officers and four civilians were injured in clashes in various parts of the country when officers used shotguns, tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse protesters. Police, who gave few details, said 48 protesters were arrested in various incidents.

The Citizen newspaper reported Wednesday that Afrikaner Resistance Movement leader Eugene Terreblanche said in an interview that white South Africans would never accept a black government. He said the government was headed for collapse that would lead to widespread unrest.

"We will not allow our people to be murdered. It looks to me as though the government is on the road to capitulation. We are not prepared to live under an ANC government, which will mean chaos," Terreblanche was quoted as saying.

President F.W. de Klerk has expressed concern about right-wing groups arming themselves to oppose power sharing with the nation's black majority.

Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok also told parliament Tuesday that the government was worried about right-wing violence. He said some armed rightists were randomly threatening blacks.

"We must take care that we do not allow organisations to be created that will lead to bloodshed,"

said Vlok, who heads the police. Vlok said police officers would not be allowed to join political parties or groups. Government officials have voiced concern that some members of the security forces support extreme right-wing groups.

Terreblanche said the ANC must abandon its armed struggle against apartheid and the white-minority government. ANC leader Nelson Mandela has refused to end the armed struggle, even though the group's guerrilla activities have virtually ended.

"My message to ANC is that if it persists with its armed struggle, we will meet it head on," Terreblanche said in the interview.

Terreblanche claimed his group was organising armed white defence units in towns across South Africa. He said the armed groups were ready to step in and impose order if the police and the government lose control.

Terreblanche's movement is thought to number a few thousand activists. But government officials have said heavily armed, right-wing groups could pose a serious threat to stability if they resort to violence.

Several air force troops were arrested in Pretoria last week on charges of helping an extremist white group steal dozens of assault weapons and pistols from a military installation.

The rightists oppose De Klerk's plans to end white-minority rule and share political power with the black majority, rightists claim that whites are superior to blacks and that the two groups cannot live together.

De Klerk is to meet with ANC leader Nelson Mandela on May 2

to try to clear the way for full-scale constitutional talks on ending white rule. While Mandela strides centre-stage in South African politics, his home village wants him to give it all up and come back to his roots.

Villagers have set aside a bare, windswept plot, one of the biggest in Qunu, for their distinguished son in the hope that he will one day relinquish his position in the national struggle for black rights and live among them.

On Thursday, Mandela will visit Qunu for a traditional feast with the community. Each tribal chief in the region is expected to slaughter a cow, goat or sheep for the occasion.

Mandela will visit his parents' and relatives' graves. His mother died in 1968, four years after he was sentenced to life imprisonment for plotting to topple white rule.

No one yet knows what Mandela will do with the plot, but village elders want him to build a homestead and settle. Others believe the site could be used to build a clinic or a school.

Qunu, a tiny poverty-stricken village among eroded hills and fields, lies 30 kilometres from Umtata, the capital of the nominally independent tribal homeland of Transkei.

Transkei was created by the South African government a decade ago in line with its policy of keeping black "nations" separate from the country's white minority.

Neither the ANC nor the outside world recognises the homelands, which are economically and politically dependent on Pretoria.

China attacks call for sanctions

PEKING (R) — China attacked escaped dissident Chai Ling Wednesday for urging economic sanctions against her own country, and told its citizens her proposal was "sickening."

The official Guangming Daily, in a report quoting a commentary published by a pro-Peking newspaper based in Paris, said that such a statement should not have been made by a Chinese about her own country.

"On April 18 Chai Ling, a member of the 'Democracy Movement', appeared publicly at a news conference after fleeing to Paris. She had nothing new to say as everything she mentioned

had been told before ad nauseum by those 'brothers in hardship' who fled before her."

"But the most repulsive aspect was that a Chinese like Chai Ling, after fleeing abroad, would call on foreign countries to impose economic, political and cultural sanctions on her own country. That was sickening."

Chai, a key figure in the student-led protests that were crushed by the army last year, escaped with her husband to France after over 10 months on the run.

"No economic or political sanction is too much against (premier) Li Peng's government, which

massacres its own people," she said this month after she arrived in France.

The commentary on her statement was published in the European Times, a Chinese language publication with close ties to Peking.

It went on to say that sanctions would hurt the countries that imposed them as well as China and that they would not force Peking into submission.

"No Chinese with any national consciousness would advocate sanctions by foreign countries to achieve his own political ends," it said. "This is not something that should be said by a Chinese."

U.S. ready for ties with Albania

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The State Department, responding to an overture from Albania's hard-line Marxist government, said Tuesday it is "ready to pursue" discussions with that country on normalising diplomatic relations.

In a speech last week, Albanian President Ramiz Alia had expressed interest in establishing relations with both the United States and the Soviet Union.

The United States and Albania have had no diplomatic ties since 1939.

Since Alia came to office in 1985, he has slowly attempted to end the isolationist policies imposed by his predecessor, Enver Hoxha.

Charging that Moscow had been engaging in ideological deviationism, Hoxha broke relations with the Soviet Union in 1961.

After noting Alia's expression of interest in restoring ties, State

Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said, "as the United States has opened to the resumption of diplomatic relations and we are ready to pursue discussions toward this end."

Alia's speech last week followed a six-month period in which Albanian officials had been sending out "feelers" through third parties expressing interest in broader contacts, a State Department official said.

The third parties included foreign diplomats and Albanian-Americans who visited Albania. State Department officials were unable to cite any direct discussions between U.S. and Albanian officials.

Another sign of the more flexible Albanian attitude was its decision to permit representative Joseph P. Kennedy to visit the country. Kennedy's office said Tuesday he expects to visit there during the first week of June.

The Albanian overtures to the United States apparently began after other Communist regimes in East Europe had collapsed. Though, unlike those other governments, Albania has pursued a policy of self-sufficiency, and has never been a member of the East Bloc.

In his speech last week, Alia noted the "wide gap" that has existed between Albania and the superpowers and said that "we meet friendship with friendship."

He said that as a result of recent international developments, "the problem of the re-establishment of diplomatic relations with the United States of America and the Soviet Union is on the agenda."

Alia also expressed interest in joining the so-called Helsinki process, the 35-nation convocation that meets to discuss issues related to European security and cooperation. Albania is the only European country which is not a member of the Helsinki group.

Armenians mark massacre anniversary

WASHINGTON (AP) — Prayers and protests were held around the United States Tuesday in memory of more than 1 million Armenians killed in Turkey early in the century.

The commemoration was marked by the long-festering dispute over how many Armenians died and whether or not they were slain by the Turks.

The date marks the 75th anniversary of what Armenians regard as the start of a campaign by the Ottoman Empire, the forerunner of modern-day Turkey, to commit genocide against its Armenian minority.

On this date, more than 200 Armenian leaders were allegedly arrested and killed.

Armenians claim that, in all, 1.5 million people were killed by the Turks from 1915 to 1923. U.S. President George Bush, whose administration also opposed the resolutions, issued a proclamation to the nearly one million Armenian Americans, marking April 24 as "a day of remembrance for the more than a million Armenian people who were victims."

Bush deliberately refrained from using the word "genocide," but supporters of Turkey were still angered.

Turkish officials acknowledge 300,000 Armenians died after Ottoman Empire officials deported the country's 1.4 million Armenians to Syria during World War I.

Independent historians have estimated that at least 600,000 Armenians perished on the journey.

Turkey rejects the accusation of genocide, saying Turks and Armenians alike were the victims of civil warfare, famine and epidemic that plagued the country in the waning days of the Ottoman Empire.

Turkey also accuses the Armenians of starting the civil war, in collusion with Czarist Russia, in order to form an independent state.

Hundreds of Armenian Americans laid a wreath at the tomb of the unknown soldier in Arlington National Cemetery Tuesday and then marched on the Turkish embassy.

As Armenian priests led the protesters in prayer, three elderly Armenians who said the Turks had killed everyone else in their families tried to deliver a petition to the embassy demanding that Turkey admit it had committed genocide. The embassy refused to open the door. "We know very well what they want and we don't deal with them," said Press Counsellor Tasan Ildem.

Gorbachev travels to Ural city

MOSCOW (AP) — Mikhail Gorbachev travelled to the Ural Mountains city of Sverdlovsk Wednesday for a two-day "purely working, business trip," his first in his expanded post as Soviet president, a spokesman said.

Gorbachev was expected to meet with Communist Party leaders Wednesday and visit the industrial city's biggest factory, the gigantic Uralmash machine-building complex, said Alexander Kashin, a local journalist.

He also will be the target of demonstrators, an activist said.

Sverdlovsk, known as the home of maverick Communist politician Boris Yeltsin, is one of the several Russian centres where Communist Party members recently ousted their local chief and replaced him with a more progressive leader.

"The trip is a purely working, business trip," Foreign Ministry spokesman Yuri Gremitskh said Tuesday.

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She said signs would read "Gorbachev, hands off Lithuania," among other slogans.

Club-wielding police beat back about 2,000 Armenians who marched on the Turkish embassy Tuesday to mark the 75th anniversary of the massacre.

The clashes occurred when the demonstrators, chanting "freedom to Turkish-occupied Armenia" and "long live the Armenian liberation struggle," tried to break through a cordon around the embassy.

COLUMN

Australians go bottoms-up in Gallipoli

ANKARA (R) — Young Australians, in Turkey to visit the scene of the Gallipoli Battles where 8,000 of their countrymen died in a World War I campaign, are baring their bottoms to astonished Turks. The liberal daily Milliyet Wednesday pictured young Australian men in Canakkale on the eastern coast of the Dardanelles waterway, presenting their naked bottoms during all-night street festivities. The paper censored out the bits it considered too offensive. The right-wing daily Tercuman, publishing similar photographs, saying: "The grandchildren of the ANZACS (Australia and New Zealand Army Corps who fought in Gallipoli in 1915) broke the alcohol barrier to undress in public."

Hidden tribe found in China

HONG KONG (R) — A tribe of more than 200 people, out of touch with the outside world for three and a half centuries, has been discovered in the depths of Xinjiang's Taklamakan desert in northwest China, the China News Service (CNS) said Wednesday. "The ancestors of these dwellers settled in the place about 350 years ago," said the Peking-owned news agency, monitored in Hong Kong. "As a result, the descendants of today know nothing about such things as the historical fact of the Qing Dynasty (China's last dynasty) or about anything else up to present time," the report said. A Chinese oil

exploratory team discovered a small oasis and the ethnic Uygur inhabitants recently, CNS said, but gave no exact time of the discovery. The Uygurs are one of China's ethnic minorities and live mainly in Xinjiang, which borders the Middle Asia part of the Soviet Union. The sun times the day's activities for the tribe, and they have no government, no schools, markets or any form of writing, the report said. "Their houses are constructed of poplar wood," it said. "They hunt and follow a 'slash and burn' style of cultivation."

'Biggest opal' found in Australia

SYDNEY (AP) — Miners in the small outback town of Coober Pedy have claimed to have found the world's biggest opal, an uncut rock that weighs 5.27 kilograms and is worth an estimated \$3 million. Named "Jupiter 5," the stone is a milky-white opal that the miners said was unearthed last July.

Richest man in U.S., wife split up

WASHINGTON (R) — The marriage is over between America's richest man and his British-born wife, a lawyer said Tuesday. John and Patricia Kluge have split, because of "irreconcilable differences," said Mrs. Kluge's lawyer Peter Sherman. "They have resolved all matters amicably and wish each other well."

Kluge, 76, founded entertainment conglomerate Metromedia. His estimated net worth of \$5.2 billion makes him the richest man in the United States, according to Forbes magazine. No divorce papers have been filed and the terms of the settlement are private, Sherman said. The Kluges had agreed to live in separate parts of their sprawling 10,000-acre (4,000-hectare) Albemarle farm estate southeast of Charlottesville, Virginia. Patricia Kluge, 41, would remain at Albemarle house with the couple's six-year-old son. John Kluge would live at nearby Morven, Sherman said.

Pilot lands plane on interstate

RICHMOND, Virginia (AP) — The pilot of a single-engine plane experiencing engine trouble landed the craft on interstate 64 near Richmond International Airport, police said. No one was injured Sunday night when Ryland W. Fleet landed the 1976 Grumman American two-seater on the west-bound lanes, said state police Sgt. E.L. Maxie. "He really handled this well," Maxie said. Fleet, 34, of Richmond, was a few kilometres from the airport, his destination, when the engine trouble began, Maxie said. "We were just very fortunate that with it being a Sunday night, traffic was what we considered to be very light," Maxie said. Neither Fleet nor his passenger, identified only as Michelle Trollope, asked for medical attention, Maxie said. The plane was towed 3.2 kilometres to the airport.

Deng under fire from veteran party hardliners

PEKING (R) — China's reclusive senior leader Deng Xiaoping has come under renewed fire from veteran Communist Party hardliners in the latest round of Peking's prolonged power struggle, informed Chinese sources said.

Chen Yun, 85, and believed to be seriously ill with leukaemia, has rallied party veterans and attempted to pin the blame on Deng for last June's crisis when the army opened fire on crowds of pro-democracy demonstrators, a party source said.

Chen is head of the party's Central Advisory Commission, a powerful body of Communist veterans, and has in the past openly declared his opposition to Deng's reformist policies.

Western party split a year ago when Deng's reformist protégé, General Secretary Zhao Ziyang, tried to avert military intervention against the student-led protests. Zhao failed, was ousted in June and has not been seen for almost a year.

Deng, 85, has also slipped from view and was last seen in public in February.

"We don't really know what is happening at the top but certainly the wrangling continues," a diplomat commented.

The party source, who asked

not to be named, said Chen criticised Deng at a meeting of senior members of the advisory commission this month.

"Chen sees himself as the man to rescue the party from the crisis," said the source. Chen is widely credited with saving China from national ruin in the early 1960s when the disastrous policies of Mao Tseung's "great leap forward" resulted in the deaths of millions through famine.

But his market theories, which endorse state planning and a minimal role for the private sector, have been instrumental in creating China's current economic slump.

Military sources said there was also anger in the army against the party for failing to resolve last year's crisis peacefully and for not taking responsibility for the heavy loss of civilian life.

A well-placed official source said the party had begun an analysis of China's past 10 years, the period of reforms launched by Deng that brought economic boom and a parallel weakening of the party's authority and Marxist ideology.

Diplomats said those who controlled this evaluation would be crucial to the assessment of Deng's official role in Chinese history and the future of his

capitalist-style reforms. Deng, one of China's great survivors who bounced back from being purged twice after the 1949 revolution, stepped down from his last official position as head of the State Military Commission last month. There was no official fanfare.

Asked whether Deng was still consulted as the main inspiration of party policy, the official source noted that Deng had "completely retired."

He was consulted on important matters" as are the other old leaders," the source added in a pointed reference to Chen and other veterans, including Peng Zhen, 88, and Li Xian'an, 81.

Chen was shunted out of the party's politburo in 1987 but emerged as a powerful force last May, calling for a crackdown on the student demonstrations. The official media has since given him considerable prominence although he has not been seen in public since last October's National Day celebrations.

An article by Chen appeared on the front page of the party newspaper People's Daily on April 15 in which he noted that Deng was China's top leader but very old, and that within a few years the leadership would pass on to the next generation.

The article was written in 1987. It went on to stress the importance of Marxist and Maoist ideology and was seen by some diplomats as indirect criticism of Deng.

"There is some disagreement but I don't think it's as serious as an attack on Deng," commented a Chinese journalist.

"I don't believe Chen's health is strong enough for him to make a move against Deng," said an East European official.

Chen is seen as the guru behind Peking's current policies of economic austerity but was believed to have suffered a setback this year when his own protégé, Vice Premier Yao Yilin, was removed as head of the State Planning Commission.

A tall, gaunt figure, Chen is famous for his concept of the "bird-cage economy" — the cage of central control in which the economy, like a bird inside, must be kept under control and never allowed to fly away.

Like Deng, he was purged during Mao's radical Cultural